

Libraries

(A Continuation of Public Libraries)

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The Attitude of the Library Toward the Drama

The dramatic editor's point of view

Between the drama of the stage and the drama of the library is a bottomless gulf of varying widths. Sometimes its walls are so far apart that the space cannot possibly be bridged. Sometimes they are so close as almost to touch. There are dramas in the theater that can never find a way across into the library. There are dramas safely anchored among the books of the library that would fall to swift destruction should they attempt the flight to the stage. Then there are other dramas of a choice class that belong both to the stage and to the library, bridging the gap at will, and equally at home before a crowded theater and in the sheltered retreat of the book-lover.

It is an astute theatrical producer who can always recognize the dramas that distinctly belong to the stage, and it is a wise librarian who can consistently draw the line between dramas that have a rightful place in the library and those that are undesirable intruders.

True drama is true literature. As such it belongs in the library as well as upon the stage. There can be not the slightest question as to the library's attitude toward Shakespeare, Goethe, Ibsen, Maeterlinck, George Bernard Shaw, Pinero, and other dramatists

who have produced works of established literary worth—works that will live as acceptable reflections of the life and the manners of their times.

The library long since adopted them as its very own—in some instances discovering them ahead of the stage. Thousands of readers knew the cynical, satirical, razor-edged Shaw through his published works long before theatrical managers could be persuaded that playgoers were bright enough to grasp and appreciate his keen wit as flashed over the footlights. Ibsen's dramas were known throughout the country from one end to the other while producers were still debating whether his plays were actable and profitable, with accent on the profitable.

Maeterlinck's dramatic prose poetry had become firmly established in the library when practical theatrical men were pronouncing his plays impossible for stage purposes—it was the New Theater that revealed the beautiful dramatic poetry of Sister Beatrice and The Blue bird.

So, too, has the library recognized the literary value of many another writer and poet who has chosen the dramatic form of expression when the theater has utterly spurned him—and, perhaps, rightly, for beautiful poetry

and stately dialog do not alone make drama acceptable to the stage. The requirements of the modern theater are strict and fairly well-defined. The most gifted author must conform his genius to these demands before he can expect to win the favor, first of the producing manager, then of the play-going public.

The library is right in giving place to these non-conforming dramatists. It has discovered in the past and will discover in the future many a genius whose non-conformity is simply a sign of progression of advanced genius. What the public wanted yesterday it does not want today. What the public wants today it may not want tomorrow. What it doesn't want now it may be eager for next week. So the librarian is safe in recognizing the literary drama even though the literary drama may not be the present-day stage drama.

But in taking this attitude there is danger of the library catering to fadism. That is the rock that has been the means of wrecking many an organization that has started out in all sincerity to study and promote the drama only to meet with discouraging disaster. It is well to give the literary drama its due; it is well to acknowledge the beauty of the poetic drama; but it is just as essential to recognize the existence and the appeal of the living drama of the day—the drama to which the people are drawn by a normal, natural, healthy interest, the drama which is reflecting our own lives and the lives of the people around us, the drama that draws us eager-minded to the theater, the drama that sends us away pleased and zestful, the drama through the improvement of which must come the much-urged elevation of the stage.

It is right that the library should cater to those whose ideals are high and whose interest in the better forms of literature has already developed into enthusiasm, but it must cater also to that great body of the public that is careless of the high ideals, that wants

its intellectual pleasures in easy, pleasant doses, that is willing to be educated if it is entertained at the same time, that is ready to be improved if the process is made painless by the administration of laughing gas, that can be coaxed into a liking for the better drama, but that will fly from it as if from a pest if it is bored by an intellectual play for which it has not yet been sufficiently prepared. The library as regards the drama can do a greater service in cultivating a sound taste in this larger, popular class than in devoting itself particularly to filling the wants of the smaller cultured—I might say over-cultured-class.

In my opinion certain of the branches of the Drama league are defeating their own purpose by overlooking in a very apparent superior way the drama that appeals to the popular fancy, choosing rather to devote themselves to the drama that is intellectually aristocratic. The library, being a public institution and having a real, substantial mission to fulfill, cannot afford to make this mistake. It may lead gently, but it cannot dictate. The great American public, including the matter-of-fact-husbands of many of our most enthusiastic drama-leaguers, is like the calf of rural proverb. It may be dragged to the pail of highly idealistic drama, but the person who tries to force it to drink may have a mighty tough job on his hands. And in the excitement the pail may be spilled.

In this connection, I might suggest that to its mission of revising the popular dramatic taste upward, the library might add the mission of revising the ultra-cultured dramatic taste downward. Some of our most ardent devotees of the idealistic drama are missing a lot of good things because they keep their eyes so persistently upon the heights that they cannot see the good that is in the everyday drama that is round about them.

This is a play-going age. The drama of the stage is receiving more attention than it ever did before. The interest of the public is already great and it

is increasing. This interest is reflected not alone in the crowds at the theaters, but also in the widespread demand for information about dramatics. The magazines, the weekly periodicals, the daily newspapers, the publishers of books are taking cognizance of this demand, and are seeking to supply it.

In meeting this demand, the library can do a most satisfying work, both to itself and to its patrons. It can circulate matter that will keep its public fully informed as to what the theater is doing today and what it has done in the past; it can supply those of us who are writing plays—and I venture to say all of us are—with numerous works on dramatic technique as well as with working models; and it can and should supply the published plays themselves.

The published drama, if it has genuine literary basis and is a reading play as well as an acting play, is a means of enjoyment and of education almost as much in the library as upon the stage. And the published play is absolutely necessary to those who are making a real study of the drama. Under existing conditions the dweller of Michigan, even Grand Rapids or Detroit, is not able to see all of the best plays brought out. Perhaps he is never able to see them upon the stage, because many are, for one reason or another, taken from the road before they cover the entire country. His only chance of enjoying them rests, therefore, in the published play.

Another advantage of having the published drama in the library is that it can be enjoyed over and over again. Frequently when the play is seen upon the stage the enjoyment of it there is enhanced by having read it first. And sometimes when the play has been seen first upon the stage, it is read with an even greater zest than otherwise.

Unfortunately for the play-reading public, however, many of our worthy American dramas are not available in book form. The authors write them for the stage. The producers buy them for their theatrical value and keep them in

the theater, not turning them over to the publisher, except in rare cases, until their current stage value has been exhausted. Indeed, it frequently happens that it is only when a play has failed to win the interest of the managers or has come a cropper upon the stage, that the authors think of publishing it.

It is different in England and different on the continent. George Bernard Shaw, as noted before, was available to the reading public before the play-going public was introduced to him. So was Maeterlinck, so was Ibsen.

This condition is being remedied, however, and more and more of the popular drama of the day is being given to the library through published plays.

Much of our popular drama, however, is not good drama from the library standpoint, however successful it may be in the theater. This is because many of our plays are simply passing, effervescent entertainment without substantial or lasting basis. Many are the product of stagecraft, not the product of play-writing. Many are spectacles that please the eye and the senses while in action, but that cannot be reproduced in printed pages.

Such plays are written often simply in the form of directions to producers, to actors, and to mechanics. They have no literary aspirations and no literary value. Even when they include dialog, the dialog is incidental—a part of making a show—not the literary basis of the show itself. Such plays are not readable, though they may be actable. Not being readable, they have no place in the library.

True drama is the expression of life or character through action and dialog. Where that expression is accomplished largely through the literary skill of the author, it may make good reading—and thus belong to the library. Where the literary value of a play is a minor quality and the piece depends mainly upon the cleverness of the actors and the effectiveness of scenic or mechanical aids, it may act

well but be poor reading. In that case it would simply be a waster of space upon the library shelves.

To illustrate this I may point to a play with which you are all familiar—Ben Hur. Lew Wallace's novel, Ben Hur, is still in active demand in libraries the country over. The play, Ben Hur, a dramatization of the novel, was for twelve years or so a phenomenal drawing card, filling theaters night after night at the highest regular scale of prices. Yet in spite of its success upon the stage—success not now due to the popularity of the book, although that helped at the beginning—I doubt if any publisher would venture to print the drama, Ben Hur, save as a sordid catch-penny effort to take advantage of the play's vogue.

The play is sketchy, spectacular, melodramatic. There is something every minute to catch the eye, to spur the interest, to thrill the emotions, to inspire enthusiasm, but most of this is in the action, in the element of the unusual, in the mechanical effects. Very little of it is in the dialog, while the descriptive matter resolves itself into prosaic stage directions. The book of the play, while interpreted by a skilful producer, a host of actors, a bunch of race horses, a few picturesque camels, and scenic effects that form an amusement and historical exhibition in themselves, resolves itself into one of the most extraordinary entertainments ever put upon the stage. That same book of the play if put into the library beside the novel, Ben Hur, would cause the latter to wilt with shame.

I am using this instance simply to show that what may be good entertainment—and, indeed a good play—may not be good drama from the library point of view.

I might quote another of the most successful plays in the country, Uncle Tom's Cabin. Although we smile over Uncle Tom in these days, and leave it for the delectation of those whose emotions are near the surface, the fact cannot be denied that the play has exercised and still exercises a wonderful

popular appeal. It doubtless has made more money than any other play ever put upon the boards—not even excepting Shakespere's Hamlet with the latter's advantage in age—and it is still taking in large sums every day, dozens of barnstorming companies playing it in tents and in halls wherever audiences can be found.

Uncle Tom's Cabin, the novel, is given a place in the library as a striking picture of slavery days. Uncle Tom's Cabin, the drama, couldn't force its way into discriminating libraries except as a dramatic curiosity. It is so crude that it incites laughter instead of the emotions it arouses in the theater. We might preserve it as a horrible example of how bad a play can be and succeed, but we would be ashamed to pass it on to coming generations as an example of the drama of our day. For that matter, however, the play bids fair to pass itself on for, while it continues to make money as it has for more than half a century, actors will be found to go "Toming," as the expression is in theatricals. Obviously between the library and such dramas, the gulf widens out broadly. It cannot be bridged. They have no place in the library.

Many dramas that to an audience appear possessed of literary merit are simply products of expert stagecraft—stagecraft that covers up or takes the place of literary weaknesses. It is thus in the case of some of the Belasco productions. The Music master, one of the most successful plays of the past decade, holds an audience in a close grip as the result of the combination of Warfield's acting and Belasco's stage effects and situations, but I doubt that the Music master in the library as the work of Charles Klein alone would merit serious consideration. There are other plays by Charles Klein that have attracted a lesser degree of attention, that would probably make better reading.

Such plays as these are like the speeches of certain silver-tongued orators; they hold us enthralled while we

are listening to them, and may even carry temporary conviction, but when we awaken from the spell of the moment and subject what we have heard to the calm, analytical scrutiny of the reader, we find that we have been moved simply by sounding brass and tinkling cymbals.

The public taste of today runs to entertainment, to that which tickles the risibilities, delights the eye, charms the ear, pleasurably stirs the senses, can be absorbed without much intellectual effort, and that leaves no unpleasant taste afterwards, even though its heritage may be a sugar-coated moral. And the playwrights who write particularly to please this fancy and secure the royalties held out as a reward cannot be relied upon to furnish many material additions to the library shelves. Only when the entertainment they produce has a fundamental literary merit that is independent of the embellishments supplied by players and masters of stagecraft can their works be considered as fit material for the library.

That there are plays that satisfy the craving for entertainment and at the same time have literary dramatic qualities that entitle them to a place in the library is easily proved. In the production of such plays have been employed skilled stagecraft, expert acting and elaborate stage effects. But these have simply been added on to the work of the authors—they have not superseded it. We can read the plays at home and be delighted with their poetry, fantastic beauty, and real philosophy. Our imaginations will make us feel the story, see the characters, and find pleasure in charming pictures, visible only to the mind. But in watching such plays in the theater, there is an enjoyment that appeals to the careless, superficial taste that wants its amusement predigested. This special enjoyment is to a considerable measure the produce of the stage director, the players and the artisans.

Good acting plays and good reading plays are doing a service for the cause of better drama by proving to a large

share of the public that worthy drama does not necessarily have to be dull drama. And in forcing home this lesson pleasantly, the producers deserve a large measure of credit. Plays of this type earn their own way into the library. Their right there is promptly recognized.

Barrie's *Peter Pan* is of that order, although its lesson is not obvious. It is dainty, poetic, high grade entertainment that charms in the theater and would make enjoyable reading.

The attitude of the library toward the ordinary run of the modern drama should, I believe, be broadly indulgent. It can afford to be as lenient toward popular plays as it is toward popular novels, giving the best of them and those for which there is a real demand, a place upon its shelves. Some may not abide there for a long time, but a goodly number will doubtless be found representative enough of the times and the manners they depict to be retained for the pleasure and the profit of students and of even casual readers for years to come. It is only by studying the old and the new, the good and the bad, the strong and the weak, that we can come to a correct judgment of actual values.

The plays that are typical of our present stage, as well as of the stage of the past, should be available in the library. In saying this I wish to distinguish again between plays that have a fundamental literary basis and those that are simply manufactured by producers and players after the playwright has furnished a skeleton. All plays taken into the library from the stage should be, at least, readable plays.

We should have plays by our American authors—Bronson Howard's *Henrietta*, a goodly share of Clyde Fitch's long list, eliminating some of his made-to-order stuff when he was trying to get rich fast; William Gillette's melodramas and the works of Augustus Thomas, De Mille and others. We should have a good representation of

the best of the present-day school. To-day plays run strongly to action, but in many of them the action is so well expressed that it is felt even in the printed copies. In Augustus Thomas' *Arizona*, that splendid combination of western and military drama, the tense, virile, vigorous action is expressed in the terse, snappy, effective dialog that gives us the thrill of the acted play. The library can and should have a large representation of English and foreign plays, including Pinero, Wilde, Jones, Barrie, Ibsen, Bernstein, and others.

If we are to have the drama in the library it should be comprehensive drama so that we may see what the playwrights of the world are doing, and the lines along which they are striving.

To sum up, I believe that the attitude of the library toward the drama should be broad, tolerant, helpful, and coöperative. The library can do much for the drama, and the drama can do much for the library. They should work together as two of the great popular educational forces of the day.

After Seeing The Thief of Bagdad

Quantrille D. McClung, librarian, Park Hill branch library, Denver, Col.

Many persons who read solely for recreation seem to think that the only kinds of print which will furnish them with a sense of romance, a change of scene and vicarious adventure with a bit of philosophy for the rough places of life, are the popular magazines and novels. Far be it from me even to imply that readers should eschew light fiction; I am convinced, however, that they miss a great deal by confining themselves to that class of reading matter.

Reading a book that gives pleasure is like finding a treasure chest; as the treasure hunter seeks for the chest, so we take up a book, not knowing what the lifted lid may disclose; what hoard of uncut gems, what strings of pearl; what golden chalices or clinking doubloons. The kind of books we have mentioned in our first sentences furnish a rather poor quality and meagre supply, on the whole, of what may be found in great richness in such authors as Galsworthy, De Morgan, Van Dyke, or Noyes, to mention a few of our own favorites.

But it seems to be a widespread belief that to read good books is a difficult matter and apt to cause no little mental strain. Such is not the case, and any person who wishes to improve

the quality of his reading and familiarize himself with the best authors may do so easily. Too often, in the desire to read something worth while, the mistake is made of beginning with a book which is unsuited to the mood or too different from what one has been reading. Browning would be impossible after a diet of cowboy stories and the *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius* wring a groan from the lips of one who has been devoted to the saccharine school of fiction. A careful survey of one's tastes and interests will suggest many points of departure, from which one may progress by easy stages to a familiarity with many of the choice products of mind and pen.

Suppose one has recently seen the film, *The Thief of Bagdad*—what better beginning could one ask for a course of reading that would open up a new world of interest and pleasure which would not greatly tax the mind in the hours of fatigue? Get out your Tennyson and read his *Recollections of the Arabian nights*, and recalling your first reading of those immortal tales, you will be sure to want to read them once more. A recent adaptation of the *Arabian nights* which is particularly appealing is that of the celebrated Irish writer, Padraic Colum. It

is fairly crammed with delightful illustrations in black and white by Eric Pape who got his inspiration from fine relics of old Persian art.

The preface of this book should be read by all who are interested in the original work for it characterizes in a valuable way the famous translations which first disclosed to the western world the wonders of that eastern literature. In this preface we are told that in the first translation, which was made by Antoine Galland, a Frenchman, about 200 years ago, there appeared the story of Ali Baba and the forty thieves, not a trace of which has ever been found elsewhere. May it not be that in the first glow of the discovery that he could successfully transmute the color and imagery of the Orient into his own tongue, the gifted writer invented the story himself?

The great English translations are the Lane, the Burton, and the Payne; the first of which is best for pleasure reading since it lacks the eroticism of the Burton edition and its prose is of a superior quality. With what soothing cadences it falls upon the ear so constantly assaulted by the lingual absurdities of the jazz age! Who would not return refreshed from an evening's sojourn in the scented gardens of the East?

The lives of these translators are as full of romance as the stories they have given us, which is fully exemplified by Lady Burton's account of her meeting with and marriage to Sir Richard Burton. It fills a big, thick book, but one need not be alarmed at the size; read only the parts that are of interest to you and leave the remainder to the bookworms.

If one wishes to learn more of the ancient Persians, the *National Geographic Magazine* of recent years will furnish several articles on the subject with an abundance of fine pictures. Books on collecting have chapters on Persian art and it is surprising how soon one may learn to recognize bits of brass or pottery encountered in the shops or the homes of friends.

Francis Jenkins Olcott's *Tales of the Persian genii* may claim the attention next and after that the reader will surely want to become acquainted with the renowned Hajji Baba of Isphahan. His creator was James Morier, another of those gifted and adventurous Englishmen who risked their lives more than once to win from the Orient its secrets. It was in 1824 that Hajji Baba first made his bow to an admiring world and those who know him may be glad to hear that a new edition of him came out in 1914. One sentence from his lips is typical of his philosophy: "To be taken for a man of real learning, I have only to look wise, shut my lips and strictly keep my own counsel."

After one has read of old Bagdad, the mind turns naturally to old Constantinople, known also as New Rome, Byzantium, and to the Turks as Istamboul. Istamboul! delightful name! How one whispers it again and again in incantation, as tho to call up the vanished days when the "Queen of the Bosphorus" was in her glory! F. Marion Crawford's *Arethusa* pictures the old city as she was in 1376, when the Italian colonists were playing so large a part in her history. This fascinating visit may be supplemented by another about seventy-five years later during the sojourn of the Prince of India who connived at the Mohammedan conquest of Constantinople in 1453. The book was written by the American soldier and diplomat, General Lew Wallace, who spent years in gathering his material with the result that this romance like his other, *Ben Hur*, seems destined to live indefinitely. If you will obtain an old *Baedeker* and use the maps along with the story, you will feel when it is finished, as tho you had walked the streets of the old Greek capital yourself and smelled the incense of St. Sophia.

H. G. Dwight, who has lived for many years in Constantinople, has given us an excellent picture in his book by that name, and his attempt to draw attention to the historical and

artistic remains of the past is highly commendable. Read one such book and the next time you visit a strange and beautiful place you will be enabled to see more than the plainly obvious. None of us wants to be like the woman who, when asked what were her impressions of Venice, replied, "Oh, in Venice they have canals instead of streets and they go everywhere in gondolas."

Pierre Loti, the celebrated French writer who passed away in 1923, was deeply interested and learned in all that pertained to the Orient. It was he who told the story of three Turkish women who left the harem and tried living in Europe, only to return "disenchanted." Later, these women wrote their own account in *A Turkish woman's European experiences*, which is of interest to those who are watching the gradual liberation of the Oriental woman.

Once upon a time, there lived in Constantinople a little Greek girl, Demetra Vaka by name, who, in *A Child of the Orient*, tells how the world looked to her in her extreme youth. After her return from America, whither she went as a young woman to make her fortune, she visited many of her old friends living in seclusion, and the record of these visits is preserved in that well-flavored book, *Haremlik*, in which is presented an idealized picture of harem life, making one long for an existence in which there was actually time to go out and watch the sun set, undisturbed by any call of duty. Demetra Vaka is now Mrs. Kenneth Brown, but she is still the friend of the women who live in her birth city and has recently written sympathetically of their new problems in her *Unveiled ladies of Stamboul*. Her novels, too, present a truer picture of eastern life than those written from the standpoint of a briefer observation.

Let us travel down to Damascus now, and look at Jules Guérin's pictures which he has made for Robert Hichens' book *The Holy Land*. Dwight Elmendorff's *Camera crusade*

thru the Holy land is illustrated with photographs; and Henry Van Dyke's *Out-of-doors in the Holy land* is the record, in choice prose, of a reverent pilgrimage to the scenes rendered forever sacred by the presence of the Master. Marmaduke Pickthall's novels, *The House of war* and *Said, the fisherman*, will tell you more about the common people of Syria than many a dusty tome. This is a good time to try Rihbany's *Treasure of Rasmola*, and if that has been enjoyed, *A Far journey* will tell the story of the author's life. *Fatima* by Rowland Thomas is a clever little story with a humorous ending that is refreshing. While lingering in this quarter of the globe one must reread Ben Hur, that old favorite that is ever new.

Next to Damascus in interest, as a political center of the Moslems, is Cairo, once the rival of Bagdad. Cairo, Jerusalem, and Damascus by D. S. Margoliouth, with its charming water colors, will enrich more than one leisure hour. Pickthall's *Veiled women* gives an intimate picture of harem life in modern Egypt, the heroine being an English governess who is married to a high-class Cairene. Modern sons of the Pharaohs excites interest by its very cover and the author, S. H. Leder, has done his best to sustain that interest. Egypt, to the majority of people, means only a river and a quantity of ruins; it will mean much more after reading even one book descriptive of life in that country. The archaeological discoveries which have electrified the world during the past few years have been well treated in periodical literature which can easily be obtained at any good public library, and those who wish to visualize the Valley of the kings, where some of these important finds have been made, will find in George Eber's *Uarda* a vivid picture of how it appeared in 1489 B. C. when the treasures which are being unearthed today were being hidden away.

Hichens has also done a book on Egypt and its monuments illustrated

with his usual happy touch by Jules Guerin. Old Egypt has been portrayed in a number of novels; Kingsley's *Hyapatia* shows us Alexandria and its religious factions in 413 A. D.; the *Bride of the Nile* deals with the barbarous customs incident to the Moslem ascendancy in 643 A. D.; *The Yoke* by Elizabeth Miller goes back to the days of the Exodus, and *An Egyptian princess* reflects the era of ancient Persian supremacy; in *In desert and wilderness* by Henryk Sienkiewicz, the fruit of his visit to Africa in 1891, we have a modern story of two foreign children who were kidnapped by the natives during the Mahdi uprising.

The next city to figure in this tour of the Moslem world is Tunis, and in this connection Gustave Flaubert's *Salambo* comes at once to mind. One of the most heart-rending scenes in this tragic book is that of the sacrifice of children to the awful god Moloch. During the past year or two, remains of these little victims have been unearthed on the site of ancient Carthage which stood near where the present city looks out upon the sea. Ethel Stevens' *The Veil* is another of those novels of harem life so convincingly written that the reader is led to feel them an account of actual experience. Beautiful foreign women may become the center of strange and disconcerting happenings while residing in Mohammedan lands, as is revealed in *Maktoub* by Craig. The old reservoir in which the heroine nearly lost her life is not a product of the imagination but has its counterpart in an old ruin near the city. Those who have read and reread Robert Hichens' *Garden of Allah* will find S. H. Leeder's *A Desert gateway* interesting as a detailed description of the town of Biskra, and the section on northern Africa in Burton Holmes' *Travelogues* will also show

how carefully the novelist depicted the scenes of his story. Those who saw the motion picture made from the novel a number of years ago will be pleased to discover how closely and successfully the producers copied the town. One gets a fair amount of atmosphere from such books, if the imagination is in good working order, and escapes the incongruities which have accompanied the tourist in his search for local color.

In these days of the emancipation of women, it is fitting that an Englishwoman, valiant successor of the men who have gone before her, should have been the one to penetrate to the last secret stronghold of Islam. This feat has been accomplished by Rosita Forbes who tells all about it in her book, *Secret of the Sahara: Kufara*. It seems well to mention at this point, that other courageous Englishwoman, Emily, Shareefa of Wazan, who long ago married one of the leaders of the Islamic world and suffered the vicissitudes that come to the Christian wife of a Mohammedan. This is another large book that will not need to be read in its entirety; judicious skipping is as useful at times as careful perusal.

By this time one ought to be able to assimilate so excellent a book as Edith Wharton's *Morocco*, the product of careful research and personal observation.

It is hoped that this suggestive outline may convince the reader that a careful choice of material will afford far more pleasure than desultory reading and at the same time leave a residuum of thought and information that will be of value on many occasions. Anyone who follows this scheme for a time will never go back to the old habit of reading the book of the hour merely because everyone else is reading it.

Letters—Information and Discussion

Printed Analytical Cards for Encyclopédie Théologique

Pub. Par M. L'Abbé Migne

Entries for the above work, 62 in number, are ready for printing at the University of Chicago libraries. These entries cover all but the 17 titles for which the Library of Congress has already issued printed cards. Any library which desires to order one or more sets of these cards, should send in its order before April 1, 1926, as no orders can be filled after that date.

The cards will cost one and a half cents each, no reduction for additional copies.

Address orders to the Card department, University of Chicago libraries, Chicago, Illinois.

January 22, 1926.

A Proposed Index

An index of articles run in the *General Electric Review* during the past five years is being planned by that magazine. The index will be alphabetically arranged by subject and by author, thus facilitating ready reference to articles carried during the years 1920-1925. It will be bound in a durable heavy stock paper cover and will be made to sell for a nominal sum. The size of the index will be 8 x 10½, the same as the magazine.

Before starting the work of compiling this information, the *Review* is anxious to secure the comments of libraries and individuals interested in such a publication. It is requested that those who can make use of the index signify their interest in it by writing the magazine at Schenectady, N. Y. If sufficient interest is manifested in the work, it will be started within a few weeks.

Information Wanted

Migne, *Patrologiae Latinae* v. 35, 23, 27, 105, bound in half blue cloth with green leather labels have been sent by mistake by A. Picard, a Paris book dealer, to a Western Reserve university professor. No word has been obtained

from the sender. If this notice reaches the attention of the individual or library for whom the books were intended, please communicate with Elizabeth M. Richards, College for Women library, Western Reserve university, 11130 Bellflower Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

A Generous Gift

Editor, LIBRARIES:

Apropos of your expressed interest in the matter of bringing together publishers and possible donors of books to institutions, may we say that we have just received a most welcome gift through this channel. We were one of the 10 libraries in the East to whom a California woman, formerly resident in Montclair, donated a copy of that beautiful book, *Picturesque America*, its parks and playgrounds, edited by John Francis Kane.

ALTA M. BARKER
Librarian

Free public library
Montclair, N. J.

Books Wanted

A list of fiction is here given which is wanted for replacements in the American library in Paris. Gifts from this list will be greatly appreciated and may be sent free of charge thru the Bureau of International exchanges of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

Cather, Willa. O pioneers
Cather, W. S. Song of the lark
Chesterton, G. K. Innocence of Father Brown
— The man who knew too much
Clemens, S. L. Pudd'n Head Wilson
Conrad, Joseph Falk
France, Anatole The red lily
— Georgian stories, 1924
Jerome, Jerome K. Second thoughts of an idle fellow
Kipling, Rudyard Life's handicap
— Puck of Pook's Hill
— Without benefit of clergy
London, Jack Before Adam
— Iron heel
— Martin Eden
— Michael
Maugham, W. S. Trembling of a leaf
Moore, G. The lake

O'Brien, T., ed. Best short stories of 1923
 Orczy, Baroness The scarlet pimpernel
 Swinnerton, Frank September
 Tolstoy, Count L. Hadji Murad
 Turgenev, Ivan Fathers and sons
 Van Dyke, Henry The blue flower
 Ward, Mrs Humphrey Robert Elsmere
 Wells, H. G. Boon
 — Passionate friends

Cataloging Rules Ready for Distribution

Cambridge, Mass., January 28, 1926

To the Editor, LIBRARIES:

The A. L. A. committee on cataloging has available for distribution reprints of the new provisional rules for the cataloging of incunabula. Copies may be obtained by addressing Mr T. Franklin Currier, chairman of the A. L. A. committee on cataloging, Harvard college library, Cambridge, Mass.

T. FRANKLIN CURRIER
 Chairman

Howard Mumford Jones' Attack on Librarians¹

An answer

Oh, Mr Howard Mumford Jones,
 Where have you dwelt of late?
 On what weird planets have you let
 Your ideas vegetate?

These "bleak, spare women," "sad and mad,"
 On whom you base your sonnets,
 Passed out with days of white shirtwaists,
 Hatpins and black lace bonnets.

But, since you get back what you give,
 It really is no wonder
 That you see naught but stony stares
 And brows as black as thunder.

Come, tune in with the A. L. A.,
 Attend some snappy meetings.
 We'll heap huge coals of fire upon
 Your head with chatty greetings.

JEAN GRAY ALLEN

¹See LIBRARIES 31:59

A Valuable Reference Tool

The growing recognition of magazines as sources of authentic information in matters of a historical, scientific and technical nature has led an increasing number of communities to make a survey of their periodical resources for the ben-

efit of their students and technical workers.

The result of such a survey of material in and about Los Angeles has just been made available by the Special libraries association of Southern California with the financial backing of the local universities, the public library and many industrial firms of the city.

The fact that the Los Angeles chamber of commerce, three large petroleum companies and an important electrical company were willing to join the more purely learned institutions in making the publication of this list possible is significant of the growing place of research in the conduct of modern business.

The *Union List of Periodicals in Libraries of Southern California* is a carefully prepared volume of about 200 pages containing the titles of about 3000 periodicals to be found in Southern California libraries, the volumes and dates being indicated in each case. The printed matter is contained in the left hand column, while the right hand margin is left blank for insertions and corrections. An extension sheet gives a key to the symbols and abbreviations employed, thus obviating the necessity of turning back each time when an interpretation of the symbols is desired.

The 24 libraries represented include periodicals on a wide range of subjects, not only the general subjects of history, literature and art, but the specialized files of petroleum and public utility libraries, law and medical collections, the valuable astronomical files of the Mount Wilson solar observatory, as well as the commercial publications found in the banks and the Chamber of commerce.

Those interested in the preparation of union lists, in the accumulation of bibliographical data for periodical material, as well as those seeking the exact location of special files will find this publication worthy of their attention.

Information concerning the *Union List* may be had from Miss Mildred E. Schaer, secretary, S. L. A., Southern California Telephone Company, 740 South Olive Street, Los Angeles.

Monthly—Except August
and September

Libraries

216 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois

Mary Eileen Ahern, Editor

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year
Current single number - - - - -	35 cents	Foreign subscriptions - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money-orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of **LIBRARIES** should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

A. L. A. Membership

AS PART of her duty, Mrs Anne W. Howland, chairman, A. L. A. membership committee, has sent out a series of letters urging membership in the A. L. A. and therein gives some very weighty and pertinent reasons why every one within library circles should become a member of the national association of librarians. She gives additional good reasons why one engaged in library service may approach those in his community who ought to be interested in the educational machinery and who should become sustaining or contributing members of the A. L. A. Mrs Howland points out that there are 15,000 workers and at least 30,000 library trustees who are not members of the A. L. A., and while the membership list at this time is 6745, this is by far too small a proportion of those who are profiting by the concentrated, coöperative work of the national library association. It has never been said of librarians that they are willing to receive but not to give, indeed, the criticism has been of

the reverse order. It must be that matters are not clearly understood, or the situation would be different.

Even a librarian of small proportions in library circles can afford the \$2 membership and should have the satisfaction and help there is in the feeling of solidarity of interest with others in a membership. The \$4 membership gives the same advantage and in addition, the *A. L. A. Handbook*, the *A. L. A. Bulletin* and *Proceedings* of the annual meetings of the association. Life members pay \$50 and receive thereafter all the privileges of membership. Contributing members pay \$25 yearly and sustaining members, \$100 yearly. Institutional members pay \$5 and receive the *Handbook*, the *Bulletin* and the *Proceedings*, as well as a discount on orders for publications.

Here is a plain business proposition for which no excuse need be offered in presenting it to anyone who might for any reason be included in library circles. The *A. L. A. Handbook*, listing members of the association, is in itself

worth the membership fee which brings it. Its service when wanted is of no little value.

Another of the strong points in Mrs Howland's letter, is the obligation which those within library circles should realize for promoting the cause of library service everywhere. There are many engaged in library work who have long intended to send in a membership but for one or another reason have deferred the matter, not realizing what weight each individual member carries. In the 45,000 persons mentioned

by Mrs Howland as outside the A. L. A. membership, there certainly should be more than enough to bring the membership to the goal set for 1926—10,000. Those whose names are not on the A. L. A. membership list are urged to heed the request sent out in the open letter to library workers and trustees and send in at once name and check for whatever membership they may choose, to A. L. A. Headquarters, 86 East Randolph St., Chicago.

Do it today—you will feel better about it tomorrow.

The Fiftieth Anniversary of A. L. A.

EVIDENCE is to be seen in the newspapers and periodicals throughout the land that interest is growing in the public mind in the proposed celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the American Library Association. This is as it should be for several reasons.

First and foremost, the prime bases of the development of the A. L. A. and its various activities have been the tax-supported libraries. And as these libraries have grown in size and service, the general welfare of the community, wherever located, has been bettered, the intelligence enlarged, the material conditions improved, all living conditions, mentally, morally and physically, have been advanced to a higher plane. It is fitting, therefore, that these things should have recognition in the golden jubilee that is planned for the birthday of this wonderful beginning.

But no less is the opportunity open to college, university and all school li-

braries to show their gratitude for whatever development of good has come to them thru the past years, and it has not been insignificant, by the ideals set up, the plans developed regarding the place of the library as an integral part of the established institutions of learning upheld and advanced with the passing years, and business and special libraries, no less than other libraries, are debtors to A. L. A.

A short study of the matter will show the great obligation that all kinds of libraries from the highest to the lowest, owe to this parent stem in library organization, for setting forth the lines to be followed and from the beginning until now, holding faithfully thru all the generations of officers and membership, to the greatest good to the greatest number in the library field in the service of books.

It is well, then, that attention and contribution should come from every quarter for the purpose of setting approval on what has been done in the half century just closing and for re-

newing pledges of fidelity to the parent organization that still is capable of larger things to come thru the faithful-

ness of its membership to the high ideals which have been its greatest glory.

Contributions for the Semi-Centennial

CONTRIBUTIONS for the Fiftieth anniversary celebration of the A. L. A. have reached \$15,000, including cash and pledges. These have come from individuals, from municipal libraries, from university and school libraries, state associations and library clubs, with personal checks from a good many librarians. The staffs of various libraries have combined and have sent contributions in the name of the staff. Library trustees have made some contributions but not so much as it is hoped or, indeed, as may be expected

later. Contributions are also being received from publishers, booksellers, dealers in library supplies, fittings and equipment, and other business concerns that are interested in the development of libraries. If the contributions continue to come in at the same rate, it is the expectation that a sufficient sum will be received to carry out many of the definite plans, the formation of which has given much interest to those charged with their development and which promise profit and pleasure to everybody.

Generous Giving

A VERY commendable spirit is that displayed by a few generous citizens who have ordered a number of sets of Picturesque America, published by the Resorts and Playgrounds of America, New York City, distributed to U. S. Veterans' hospitals and to small libraries where there is any considerable number of returned doughboys who still think of scenery as something they found when they crossed the sea. Librarians who have followed the trail of the A. L. A. in its peregrinations across the continent in all directions, and especially those who have been fortunate enough to take the post-conference trips, are in a position to reassure these returned veterans that scenery is at the very door for him who

knows either through reading or observation what beautiful landscape is.

One may well wish that "public-spirited" citizens be multiplied many times when their generosity takes the form of supplying worth-while books to libraries. It is the only permanent gift and leaves an impression that can never be erased.

Year after year for an unknown period, an endowment for furnishing books to a useful library grows stronger in furnishing the happiness that accompanies a realization of one's powers, that comes thru education, thru reading and study. No other stream of usefulness leads in as many directions with the certainty that money so expended will do good all its days without end.

A Tribute to Mrs Alice G. Evans

IN A beautiful tribute which the president of the Decatur library board, Mr W. F. Hardy, expressed editorially in the *Decatur Herald*, there is given such a true picture of the late Mrs Evans that extracts from it are given here for the perusal of her many friends in library circles. (See p. 124)

Youth may go, and with it beauty of face and lissomeness of figure, but charm remains. Wrinkles may come to the fairest cheek; disease and age may take their toll on strength, but charm remains.

For charm is the expression of the spirit. It is detached from flesh and blood. It is the soul speaking. Kindness, courtesy, sympathy, humor, love—these can tenant a feeble frame, and glorify it even as a fabled queen might shed radiance through a peasant's hut. The house may totter and fall, but one has the feeling that the inner, the essential, the beautiful

thing abides and lives on. It was this charm that distinguished Mrs Alice G. Evans and made her so generally and so genuinely loved.

It will always be a source of joy to her friends, even as it was a satisfaction to her to round out her 50 years of library work. She chose to regard the golden jubilee celebration of last August as a tribute to the library, but it could not be divorced from a tribute to herself. The names were so inseparably linked that to many Mrs Evans was the library.

It was a happy ending. Shocked and saddened as are her friends, they find it possible to be glad—glad that she was spared a long period of pain, glad that she had seen her life's work come to fruition, glad that she knew as never before how widely and deeply she was revered.

Her labor will live after her, and something else. The fragrance of that life will pervade the memories of those that knew her even as the odor of a flower remains after the flower has been removed. Mrs Evans' charm abides.

Honors for Miss Mary L. Titcomb

The public press of the country is noting with approval the anniversary celebrations of long years of service by librarians in their various localities. This marks not only long years of profitable service of many libraries but also the beginning, in a way, of a realization of the value of the personal equation in the service of books.

A recent occasion of this kind was the celebration, February 1, by the Washington County free library, Hagerstown, Md., of the twenty-fifth year of service of its librarian, Miss Mary L. Titcomb. A reception by the Board of trustees and citizens of the community attended by more than a hundred guests was held at the library, which was handsomely decorated for the occasion. There were speeches by eminent citizens and representatives of various organizations, all speaking in the highest terms of the library's service to the community and the county.

A silver pitcher handsomely engraved and a check for a substantial sum were presented to Miss Titcomb by the mayor of the city. A number of guests from out of the city were present and telegrams and letters of congratulation were received from library friends from all parts of the country.

The press of Hagerstown speaks in glowing terms of Miss Titcomb's work and laudatory interviews with a number of prominent citizens found place in its columns.

A Mark of Appreciation

A tablet acknowledging appreciation of the valuable work performed by Mary E. Wood, librarian, Boone library, Central China university, Wuchang, has been placed in the hall of Boone library. The tablet was presented at the joint request of Dr W. W. Yen and of Chengting T. Wang, former minister of foreign affairs, by Marshal Tuan Chi-jui, chief executive of

the Republic of China. The bronze tablet carries four characters representing the meaning, Directing and spreading civilization, and is an expression of the appreciation of the Ministry of Miss Wood's participation in the return to China of the remainder of the Chinese indemnity fund for cultural purposes, and also as an acknowledgment of the highly valuable service of 25 years rendered by her to library and educational work in Wuchang.

Retirement

The Library committee of McGill university, Montreal, announces with regret the resignation of Margaret S. Mackay as a member of the library staff after 32 years of continuous, faithful and efficient service.

The following resolution was recorded in the minutes:

The Library committee places on record its deep appreciation of the long and faithful work of Miss Margaret S. Mackay in the service of the University library, and commends her continued interest in all matters pertaining to the library profession. It recognizes the value of her painstaking and accurate work in cataloging the library, where for many years she was head of the cataloging department, until advanced to the position of assistant secretary of the International catalog of scientific literature—a work which enabled her to undertake the research necessary to the preparation of the *Catalog of Scientific Periodicals in Canadian Libraries*.

Miss Mackay's long association with the university has brought her into contact with all departments, and the committee joins with her many friends in hoping that she may now have the leisure to enjoy the library, to the effective use of which she has contributed so much.

Miss Mackay has been a member of the A. L. A. for many years and was an active member of the reception committee at the meeting held in Montreal in 1900 when the late lamented C. H. Gould, librarian of McGill university, was president of the association.

Uniformity in Measurement

The Metric Standards bill introduced by Congressman F. A. Britten of Illinois (H. R. 10) had a hearing in February before the House committee on

coinage, weights and measures, of which Hon. Randolph Perkins, New Jersey, is chairman. This bill provides for the gradual adoption of metric units of weights and measures in merchandising throughout the United States for a transition period of 10 years. Under this law, manufacturers will continue to use any measures they desire in production, but commercial transactions are to be on the decimal basis already employed to advantage in United States coinage. All civilized nations have adopted the metric standards except the United States and the British commonwealths, whose measures are not identical. The states of Illinois, California, North Dakota, Tennessee and Utah, through their legislatures, have memorialized Congress to pass such a metric law.

Charging Systems

Note from Library survey

As a result of its preliminary study of public library charging systems, the Library survey is able to present the following advance information on this point. Not all of this information will appear in the survey's final report, and it seems desirable to have it on record for the benefit of the profession. Actual count of the reported systems reveals the fact that, if none have been overlooked, there are 24 systems in use. These are as follows.

Newark; Brown; Cutter-Brown; Brown-Cutter; Dewey; 2c a day; Racine; Sioux City; Miss Drake's; Library Bureau; Ledger; Combination of Albany and Newark, used by Miss Kroeger of Drexel; New Method used in Detroit and throughout the state of Iowa; Combination of Newark and some other; Pay as you go; Have used it so long, I've forgotten name; the one commended by Dana in his Library primer, page 125; "Our own"—"Not well known"; Cutter; Date due system; Card system; Sioux Falls system; Number system; Standard.

C. SEYMOUR THOMPSON

St. Louis, Mo.
February 10, 1926

The Motion Picture Problem

There was held in Chicago, February 10-12, the fourth annual Motion Picture conference under the auspices of the Federal Motion Picture Council of America, Inc. The preliminary program stated, "This is an open conference with a free platform. All are welcome." The preparation of the program was under serious consideration for a long time by eminent persons interested in the morals and manners, the education and training of the young and in the elevation of the tastes of people in general.

When these thoughtful persons spoke, one caught again a vision of the spirit that felt a patriotic urge in the great days of a decade ago when every one with a conscience void of offense tried to find out the things to be done that would be best under the trying circumstances of the times. Men and women of standing, because of their useful work in the fields of education, law, religion and political endeavor, attended the sessions, took part in the discussions or by their very presence added to the earnestness of the inquiry as to what should be done to solve the difficult problems presented by the motion picture situation all over the country. All of these recognized the good that motion pictures might do if they were on a higher level or in the hands of men of vision.

The deplorable side of the picture was emphasized by the half dozen speakers who, clever, shrewd, glib of speech, used the opportunity given them to speak in behalf of their commercial interests and consumed time in an endeavor to create an atmosphere of ridicule and contention. No better illustration of Emerson's saying—"What you are speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you say"—could be given.

The opinions of those who were seriously endeavoring to find the right path as to the national regulation of motion pictures differed all the way from those in favor of strict legal censorship, to persons like Judge Ben

Lindsey of Denver who thought censorship an invasion of personal rights—who thought education and greater development of civic righteousness was the only road that could or should be pursued.

Two bills are in Congress on this subject, one known as the Swoope bill (H. R. 4094) and the other as the Upshaw bill (H. R. 6233). These were explained, the first by Congressman Swoope himself, and the second by Canon William S. Chase. The intent and purpose of the bills are identical, one going more into detail with reasons for the same, and the other being a succinct statement of the need for regulation, leaving the details to be applied by those authorized to carry out its purpose.

Libraries, as a part of the machinery of public education, have a duty in these matters, which, because of the ugliness of its connection, is often overlooked. There is an analogy between story-telling and moving pictures, even of the best kind. Both ought to excite the desire to know more from having heard the story or having seen the picture, but too many times the audience has the story poured over it for the mere pleasure it gives and, in the case of the pictures, oftener than not, the gaseous vapors stifle any spiritual thought and stunt the mental growth.

There is not much that can be done in changing either point of view or mode of living after the years of maturity are reached, but it does seem pitiful that youth should not have a better chance in these educational matters. Sometimes it would seem as if they would be better off if nothing interfered with the regular development which might come from their natural endowments. There is no class that can escape harm from poor or bad pictures. For the children who are in poverty's grip, most pictures are sodden, they are without inspiration or taste, without ideals or hint that life contains anything beyond the dull grind that is their own en-

vironment day by day. For the more fortunate, unwholesome curiosity is excited by seeing pictures which calous the perceptions and fine feelings before real experience ever comes, with the result that there is a loss of the finer perceptions and standards of conduct. Adult points of view are presented before they are due. Premature experiences of world-old problems are brought within the compass of childhood's judgment or field of play and become a matter of course.

Librarians are sometimes led off by the increased circulation of a few books which manage to break into the movies, but for the one grain of wheat that comes from such an experience, there are oceans of chaff and tons of rust.

Leaving aside altogether the moral question of the situation, Channing Pollock's statement before the Utica audience (*see p. 129*), that the great evil of the world is ignorance and the sole remedy for it is education, rings so powerfully true that the shortest moment of thought will show the course to be pursued. What Mr Pollock says about depletion of taste is worthy of wide dissemination. The development of the aesthetic taste, while not in itself a shield against evil, does offer a responsibility that may hold until a more vigorous defense can be established.

What is true of books is equally true of pictures and is so closely related to the service of books that it cannot be overlooked. Here is where the librarian receives direction on which side of the line to stand. Mr Pollock's address is to be recommended to all who understand the momentous future that is just ahead in the world of print, both moving pictures and books.

A list of recent references on convict labor has been issued as a reprint from the *Monthly Labor Review*, October, 1925. The list was prepared by Edna L. Stone, assistant librarian, U. S. Department of Labor library. The topic is of special interest to many.

Death's Toll

Mrs Alice Glore Evans, for 50 years connected with the Public library, Decatur, Ill., died suddenly in Los Angeles, Cal., February 8. Mrs Evans was enjoying a year's leave of absence from the library and until a few days before her death was in her usual health.

Mrs Evans succeeded her husband as chief librarian of the Decatur public library in 1881, although she had been his assistant from the first. She was indefatigable in seeking out and applying as far as possible the latest and best methods and materials for the library's service to Decatur citizens. She was unsparing of herself in her efforts during the library's years of transition from a small town library to the splendid institution it is in the community today.

The library, and indeed the whole city of Decatur, celebrated the library's golden jubilee in August of last year, the date also marking Mrs Evans' half century of service there. The celebration was really a tribute to Mrs Evans. Local admirers gave her a gold purse containing \$400 in gold coin and she was also the recipient of letters of congratulation from all over the country. Her last year's leave of absence was granted by the trustees of the library in recognition of her 50 years of faithful service to the institution. (*See P. L. 30:458.*)

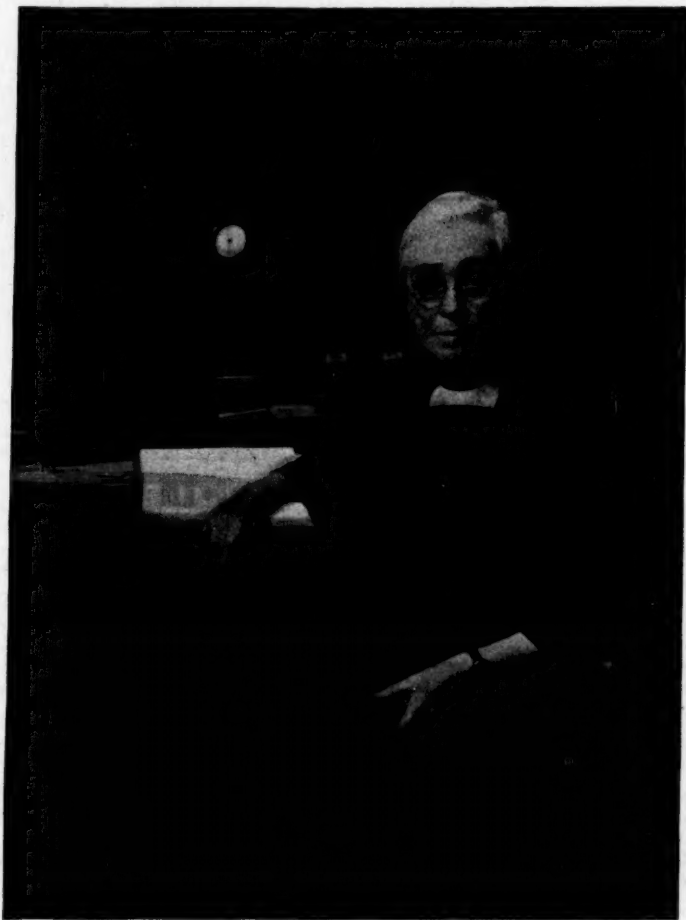
In 1921, Decatur's first branch library was opened and named for Mrs Evans. This latter fact was kept a secret from her until during the dedicatory exercises when the stone which bore her name was uncovered.

The Municipal Art league of Decatur has had the custom for some time of presenting to the community, when occasion offered, the portrait of some highly esteemed citizen of Decatur. In 1922, Mrs Evans was the unanimous choice for the portrait, which was painted by Nicholas Brewer and now hangs in the lobby of the library.

Mrs Evans was highly regarded not only in her profession in Illinois but

she was a prime favorite in the national library association, which several times entrusted her with important place. She possessed a personal charm which distinguished her in any company. In

her office and received her morning greeting before beginning the work of the day. This was an invariable rule and built up an *esprit de corps* that was highly valuable in her library service.



Mrs Alice Glore Evans, 1848-1926

her library, she was always the director and while she was beloved by her staff, she was a firm disciplinarian, but always courteous and with a high regard for the proprieties. A notable instance of the spirit in her library was that every member of the staff came to

She carefully surveyed the management and had general oversight of the library up to the last. She had had the idea of retiring in her mind for some time, but never received encouragement to do so from her board of directors.

Mayor Elder of Decatur in speaking of Mrs Evans said:

Mrs Evans was for 50 years a faithful and efficient public servant. All who knew her loved and respected her. Her death comes as a personal loss to hundreds. Her memory will be honored.

Minnie A. Dill who had been associated with Mrs Evans for more than 30 years and who had been her right-hand supporter in every library problem that arose, says out of the fullness of her heart and experience:

My love for books began under the guidance of Mr and Mrs Evans, in the days when the library was in small quarters, for their native understanding of youth, their gentleness, helpfulness and personal interest accomplished all that present-day educational psychology could hope for. I was proud when Mrs Evans offered me a position in the library. I succeeded Miss Alice S. Tyler when she went to a larger field. Mrs Evans and I were the only members of the staff at that time. With the exception of the year I spent at Pratt Institute school of library science, we were together continuously, so her going is to me like losing one of my own family.

Alice S. Tyler, dean, School of library science, Western Reserve university, Cleveland, O., who began her library studies in the Decatur public library under Mrs Evans, said:

A modest, sincere and noble gentlewoman has gone from the ranks of librarianship in Alice G. Evans. She has left an imperishable impression on the community in which her life has been spent and where she had rounded out 50 years of library service, and on her associates in the library world. A woman of rare personality with a great capacity for friendship, she created an atmosphere of friendly helpfulness, giving herself with joyous service to the people of Decatur and to the library she loved. It was my privilege to begin my library work under her, and her courage, patience and helpfulness in those years, will ever be a vivid and gracious memory. She was in sympathy with the advancing standards in the library profession and built up her staff with full appreciation of the newer aspects of the work. With grateful affection I bring my tribute of appreciation for my friend and fellow librarian.

At a staff meeting it was voted that:

The staff of the Decatur public library feels that a great and good influence has gone out from among its members.

The library was closed on the day of the funeral services, February 10, in

Los Angeles. Later Mrs Evans' ashes were returned to Decatur for interment.

Henry N. Sanborn

Henry N. Sanborn, librarian of Bridgeport, Conn., died suddenly at his home in Fairfield, February 22, of cerebral hemorrhage, age 47 years.

Mr Sanborn was born in Quincy, Mass. He was a student at Harvard, 1897-98, and was graduated from Dartmouth in 1902, A. B. He received his M. A. from Yale university in 1903. He taught in Phillips academy, Andover, 1903-11, when he entered the New York State library school. He became librarian of the University club, Chicago, in 1912, where he remained for two years. He became secretary of the Indiana library commission in 1913 and did very notable work in that position for five years, leaving there to become librarian at Bridgeport. Here he applied to the work of reorganizing an old passive library the same keen faculty for seeing the essential things to be done first, and in the few years he had been there, he accomplished a remarkable piece of good work. At the time of his death, he was in the midst of plans for building a new library that embodied his ideas of a handsome, up-to-date structure worthy of the cause it was to serve. Doubtless his close devotion to his duty as administrator and builder hastened his death.

Mr Sanborn was an active member of the A. L. A. and won the respect of his fellow workers by the fair and effective service he rendered on committees and in the Council. He was unmarried and left no near relatives.

Mrs Kate Pleasants Minor

Word has come from Richmond, Virginia, of the great loss the city feels in the recent death of Mrs Kate Pleasants Minor, a member of the Public Library board of that city. She was reference librarian in the Virginia state library, 1903-15. Development of libraries throughout the state engaged her interest and without question, many of them owe their existence to her interest and endeavor. The library

for the blind in the State library was also one of her special interests.

There is a consensus of opinion that the creation and development of the Public library of Richmond may be attributed to the will and purpose of Mrs Minor. Her energy and inspiring belief kept the movement going until today it is a reality—a monument to her faithful work.

The press of Richmond printed many beautiful tributes to Mrs Minor. From those who worked with her and for whom she had worked, not only in library matters but in pushing local interests, particularly in the preservation of the historical land marks of the old Dominion, come words of great praise and affection.

American Library Association

News notes and announcements

A meeting of the A. L. A. council has been called for March 7 at the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, at 2:30. This meeting will be for council members only. Important business will be discussed.

The annual dues for 1925-26 are now payable in the A. L. A. catalog section. Catalogers are urged to renew their own memberships and to secure as many new members as possible. Dues should be sent to Linn R. Blanchard, secretary-treasurer, Princeton University library, Princeton, N. J.

A number of copies of the report (122 mimeographed pages) made to the A. L. A. committee on the classification of library personnel by Fred Telford of the Bureau of public personnel administration, and presented to the council, January 2, are available at A. L. A. headquarters. Single copies may be obtained upon request as long as the supply lasts. Please enclose 25c in stamps to cover postage.

The fiftieth anniversary fund approximates \$17,000.

Public libraries from Lancaster, Massachusetts, to Susanville, California, and from Grand Rapids, Minnesota, to Galveston, Texas, have responded. Personal checks have come from interested

persons, individual members of library boards, faculties and students in library schools, and appropriations from library boards, library clubs, library commissions, etc. A gratifyingly large number of contributions have come from small libraries.

The Special libraries association has decided to hold its annual conference this year with the A. L. A. in Philadelphia in October and voted to cooperate in every way to make the Fiftieth anniversary a success, as looking toward the promotion and welfare of library interests. The A. L. A. executive board has taken recognition of the action of the affiliated society by a resolution expressing its gratitude for the action of the S. L. A. and welcoming the proffered cooperation in the belief that the anniversary year may be made the greatest in the history of the American library movement thru the united efforts of all library interests.

Isabella M. Cooper, editor of the A. L. A. catalog, 1926, spent a week recently in New York interviewing publishers with reference to the certain availability of their publications. The opportunity to describe the catalog in such a way as to show the necessity for the selective inclusions which have been made for it was most profitable. The spirit of cooperation was most genial and a good feeling resulted from the visit. Out-of-print books will be excluded from the catalog when there is apparently no prospect of reissue.

The A. L. A. catalog staff is spending several weeks in Washington consulting the collections of the Library of Congress.

Proposed pre-conference trip

The A. L. A. travel committee is making arrangements with the Temple Tours, Inc., Boston, for a pre-conference European trip. The party will sail from New York, August 21, and arrive in New York, October 3. The tour covers England, Scotland and Paris and environments. The accommodations are the Tourist Student cabin on the Atlantic steamers with modest but comfortable accommodations on

land and the usual arrangements with travel guide from start to finish. Prof Jack Crawford of the English department, Yale university, will be the leader of the tour. Members of the A. L. A. who are interested are asked to communicate with F. W. Faxon, chairman, A. L. A. travel committee, 83 Francis Street, Boston, Mass.

The Library association of the United Kingdom has selected the following librarians to represent the association at the Fiftieth anniversary meeting of the A. L. A. in Philadelphia in October: Frank Pacy, honorary secretary of the L. A. and librarian, Public libraries, Westminster; S. A. Pitt, librarian, Mitchell library, Glasgow, and Walter Powell, chief librarian, Birmingham public library. These men are among the leaders in the British library movement and have occupied positions of honor and importance in the library profession for a good many years. Their presence will be a real addition to the meeting and a warm professional welcome awaits their coming.

Chinese Library Progress

Dr A. E. Bostwick, librarian, Public library, St. Louis, Mo., A. L. A. representative to China last year, has received information concerning plans for the new Metropolitan library in Peking. Interesting points of information are as follows:

The library is to be managed by a board of nine members, three appointed by the minister of education, three by the China Foundation for the promotion of education and culture, and three by joint action of these two bodies. An unusual arrangement is the appointment of two treasurers, one by the minister of education and one by the Foundation. These two bodies will also decide upon the location which, when secured, will be turned over to the library board without compensation. The Peking library, under government control, will also be given over to the board and will be made a

depository of government library material.

The Ministry will pay half the expenses of the library and the Foundation will provide for construction and equipment of the library building, which will amount to about \$570,000 in gold, to be paid in installments during four years. These agreements are to be effective for 10 years, at the end of which time a new agreement is to take place.

The director of the China Foundation, Fan Yuan Lien, offers further encouragement to the friends of Chinese libraries—model public libraries and other library projects will receive due consideration by the board.

Dr Wellington Koo, a director of the Foundation and former minister to the United States, is much interested in the promotion of public libraries in China and such libraries as the Metropolitan will be started in various parts of China. A building for a public library at Shanghai, to cost \$400,000, has been planned. The money is to be contributed by Tan Ka Kee, founder of Amoy university, who is also building public libraries for the cities of Foochow and Amoy.

The board of control of the Metropolitan library of Peking has selected Dr Liang Chi Chao as librarian and Li Sze-Kuan as associate librarian. Both men are eminent Chinese scholars. The technical administration will be placed in the hands of Yuan Tong-Li, at present librarian of the National university, a young man of scholarly attainments who obtained his library training in library schools of the United States.

A Writer Speaks

Winston Churchill of Cornish, N. H., on leaving for the Bermudas, recently announced that he had not written for publication in the last 10 years and probably would not again, owing to the high price of books. His last big successes were *Inside the cup*, 1913, and *The far country*, 1915. Mr Churchill said that the present price of novels, \$2 to \$2.50, put them out of reach of the average person's resources.

—*Library Lantern*, U. of N. H.

Drama in the Library

The celebration of Drama week by the Public library, Utica, N. Y., is coming to be an event in the year for the people of that city. The library takes the lead in preparation for observance of the week insofar as publicity, place and arrangement are concerned. Last year the celebration was a successful occasion (*See P. L. 29:184; 30:534*) and no less so this year.

As usual, the program was furnished by the dramatic clubs of the city and by celebrated dramatists and writers of drama who were heard in an exposition of dramatic art. For these occasions, the main hall of the library was transformed each night at nine o'clock after the work of the day was done from a circulation department into a little theatre.

The celebration began, January 25, with the play, *The Romancers*, by Rostand, presented by the New Century club. On Tuesday evening, the Catholic woman's club presented *Poor Maddalena*, a fantasy aided by selected music, the players unseen, which added much to the effect. On Wednesday evening, the Charlatans of Hamilton college presented Lord Dunsany's *A night at an inn*. The hall was crowded, the stair case leading to the second story was filled and a large number stood throughout the presentation. This realistic bit of drama written by a master craftsman pleased the audience mightily. On Friday evening, the Players' club presented *The Valiant*, a play by Holworthy Hall. This play, heart-rending as its subject is, left the audience with a fine feeling and an appreciation of its self-sacrificing theme.

Two other evenings, Thursday and Saturday, were given up to personal presentation. Madame Elli Tompuri, the celebrated Finnish actress, as usual, gave her hearers an artistic program of readings from the works of Shakespeare. Madame Tompuri is greatly impressed with the idea of Drama week and announced her desire and intention of presenting the plan to her peo-

ple in the hope that Drama week may become an annual institution in Finland.

The week closed with a presentation on Saturday night by Channing Pollock, noted author and playwright. The celebrated dramatist made his audience wish that his attitude toward his work might be more largely shared by others of the craft, particularly those who have to do with the commercial side of the presentation of plays. Mr Pollock believes that neither legislation nor censorship will go far in the search for better or more decent plays. He thinks that one great fault exists in the world—ignorance, and one remedy—education. The public must be educated up to a better theatre. Real education does not mean the *claim* of a liking for better plays and the *active support* of those that are bad. He asserted that when a nation likes tragedy, it is sure to be a strong and vigorous race. When it has learned to laugh, it has become decadent.

The situation in the theatre is degrading and symptomatic. The theatre is a good index of the times—when it strikes bottom, all other institutions have struck bottom, too. Of the 220 plays produced last year in New York, 93 dealt with crime and criminals. In New York City today, there is not one highly successful play that is not smeared with the obnoxious taint of sex. Theatre managers are looking for two things, easy plays for easy minds, or plays with a punch. The dictionary gives the definition of punch—"a hard instrument for making an impression on a hard substance." Mr Pollock agrees with John Ruskin, that "Bad taste is the only immorality." However, he is not so much worried over the ideas of morality which the public gets from the movies as he is over the ideas of art it gets. It is disconcerting to have the public form its ideas of comedy from Charley Chaplin, of brave men from Bill Hart with his guns, and of womanhood from Gloria Swanson!

An interesting bit of his experience which Mr Pollock related was the fact that 31 managers had turned down his play, *The Fool*, and finally the Selwyns said they would do it if he would take it to Los Angeles for a trial. There a famous movie producer asked him in the lobby the first night of the play what all the talk about the *Star of Bethlehem* meant. The movie man said the actors ought to explain it for the audience would never understand! This proved, he thought, that any author who writes a play beyond the mentality of the movie producer has no chance of getting into the American theatre. Before better plays are written, new men to produce the plays and a new public to support them are necessary. The better class of people have ceased to go to the theatre because of what is offered there.

Mr Pollock concluded his address by saying: "After a long struggle, I have now got my audience, but some one has got to fight for Galsworthy and others who want to write fine plays against the cynical ones in the theatre who care only for the frivolous and the vulgar shows."

Meredith Nicholson on the Library

A recent address by Meredith Nicholson, probably Indiana's favorite author today, at a staff meeting of the Public library, Indianapolis, Ind., was a most enjoyable humorous sheaf of reminiscence of days when as a youth the author was a borrower at that institution. He especially commented on the change toward childish users of the library since the days of his youth and the alluring efforts that are made today to engage the interest of children in the store of books in the library. Mr Nicholson said:

I was passionately fond of any reading matter which had to do with the Civil war, especially as this town was full of Civil war heroes. I liked to look at pictures of those stirring times in *Frank Leslie's Weekly* and other magazines. One Sunday afternoon I had already asked the attendant at the library—a young law student—to get out 15 large bound volumes of these maga-

zines for me, but when I asked for the sixteenth, he became curious and a little irritated, perhaps, because his own reading was being so frequently interrupted. Upon questioning me and finding that I read fast because I was doing nothing but looking at the pictures, he discouraged this proceeding so thoroughly that I slipped quietly out of the library and went home.

Some of the significant statements in Mr Nicholson's address were:

I think the Library of Congress is the only library in the country that can claim to be a little superior to the Indianapolis public library in beauty and service. I like to recall Riley's share in this library because I always like to think of him, especially on rainy days because he hated them so!

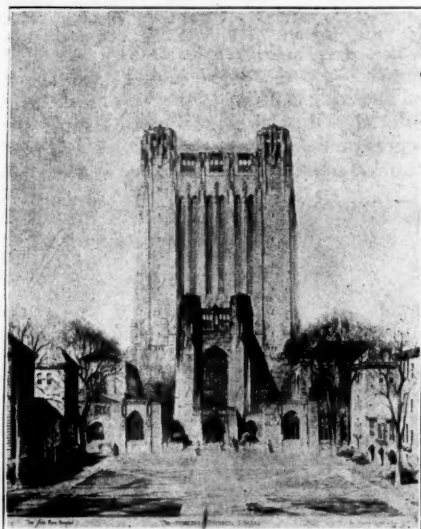
We have been going thru a tremendous industrial expansion and a series of social changes so that we are all a little bewildered. The solution of our problems is not easy.

When Matthew Arnold visited America he complained of our lack of intellectual seriousness. Taking Indianapolis as a laboratory where we may see matters at close range, we may note a tremendous loss of intellectual seriousness. For you who are in close touch with so many people, it is most important that you interest our American people in the government. A republic like ours presupposes the interest of all the people. Why is it that there is so little interest in politics among our best people? The colleges are not arousing in boys and girls an interest in such vital matters. Fathers too often advise their sons to keep out of politics—"That's dirty business." Our distinguished ancestors who have founded the government of our country are not thus being shown the proper respect by us—in keeping it fine and worth while.

The women who fought so hard to get the franchise and now are not using it, need to understand that there is nothing too much for them to accomplish. They can get the best possible talent into politics, if they will, and at present it looks like it is their job.

I have been unkindly accused of writing problem novels of late in order to make big money, but I want to say that the easiest way to make money in book writing is to do the Pollyanna stuff. Just put a little sugar on it and it will go big! A novel with a problem discussion isn't so popular. I am often reminded of one of Mark Twain's expressions—for Mark Twain took things seriously, even politics—"When I look back over the history of the world and think about the human race and how many fools are born every year, I sometimes think it would have been a good thing if Noah and his family had missed the boat."

Sterling Memorial Library for Yale University



Tower of Sterling library, planned for Yale university

Perhaps the most extensive bit of definite library information concerning library buildings that has appeared since the news concerning the wonderful consolidation which provided for a public library for New York City is that sent out by the authorities of Yale university regarding the plans for the Sterling memorial library of Yale. The text of the statement covers some 5000 words and reads like a fairy tale. Those who have been hoping for the day of appreciation of the large things in library service for so long that in many instances it is beginning to have the usual effect of hope deferred, are deeply stirred by the signal movement which foreshadows the day of recognition so long desired.

A summary of the proposal for Yale university library building includes the following high points:

A monumental Gothic design to house five million volumes to be erected as a memorial to the late John W. Sterling, an eminent Yale graduate of the class of 1864, at a cost of \$5,000,-

000, provided by the trustees of the Sterling estate.

The library is designed not only to give facilities for proper use of Yale's priceless collection of books accumulated during the two and a quarter centuries of its life but also to meet the university's library needs for the next hundred years. The library will be completed two years from now.

Special attention has been given to anticipated needs of the library, and its special service and convenience for students, professors and scholars in general will not be surpassed by any other library in the world.

There are now 21 antiquated buildings on the site to be occupied by the new library, a full square. The library will be the dominating architectural feature among the buildings to be grouped about it and along the new cross-campus avenue which is to be opened.

The architect is James Gamble Rogers of New York, the designer, also, of



Grand entrance hall

the Harkness tower and the Memorial quadrangle on Yale campus.

The plans for the library were under consideration long before the Sterling bequest providing funds had been secured. The librarian, Andrew Keogh, submitted the proposed plans to every professor in the university for individual criticism, and expert advice was given by the librarians of five of the

Mr Rogers, in speaking of the building, said:

Far-seeing vision and fine idealism, made practical by good common sense, characterize the layout of university requirements which were submitted to me as a basis for the architectural planning of the library.

The description of the plan as outlined by the Yale authorities and the ideals set out concerning the various rooms of the new library make one

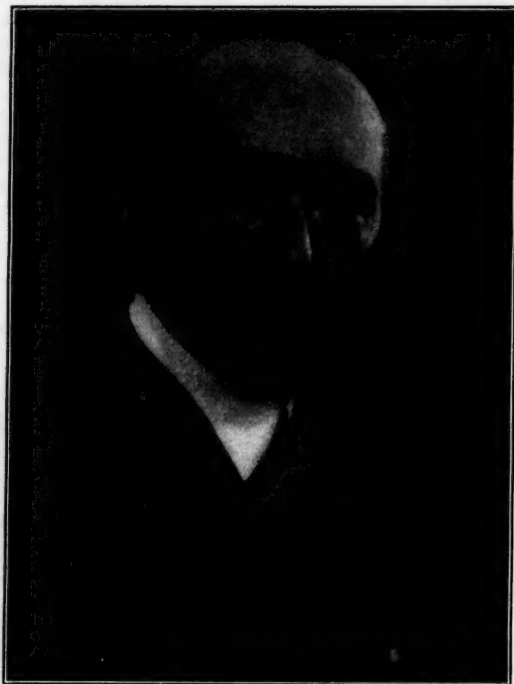


Photo by Bachrach

Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale university

great university libraries in this country, by the Librarian of Congress and other eminent librarians, also by the dean of Yale art school.

In speaking of the plans, Mr Keogh said:

Good light, flexibility of construction to provide for changing needs, quiet, comfort, quick service for readers and an inspiring atmosphere were the general stipulations to the architect, and his solution will give us a building as efficient as an up-to-date factory and as beautiful as a cathedral.

hope there will be no delay in the building so that one may be allowed to see its beauty at an early date. There will be 50 studies and seminar rooms with more than 400 stalls where graduate students and others attracted by Yales' treasures may keep rare books and papers in privacy for a limited time. The Yale library is a Mecca for scholars from all parts of the world and the offering for them in library convenience as well as in priceless

products of print, for which Yale is noted, must be an inspiration. Among some of the things for which the library is noted are the special collections and libraries which have come to Yale at different times. Yale owns the finest collection of coins of any university in the country, and its collection of bound volumes of newspapers is probably also the largest of any university in the country. Its collection of material dealing with the War and Peace conference is not surpassed, hardly equalled by any collection extant.

The privileges of Yale university library are to be extended to the community in which it is located. At present, lack of space precludes this but in the new building there will be ample space for all. Books may be called for until 10 o'clock at night.

The story of the beginning of Yale is most interesting, as is that of the early turbulent years of its history. "The battle of the books" reads like a romance, and it is hoped that the descendants of those who were entrusted with the treasures of the library when the Revolutionary days threatened their destruction, will be moved by the new order of things to return the long detained property to its rightful owner.

Yale university has steadily advanced to the front ranks in its service for the past 25 years. It is probably not equalled today in the practical value of its contents nor excelled in valuable book rarities.

The *Bulletin of Bibliography* honors itself as well as Mr Keogh, by giving a short biographical sketch with a portrait in the issue of January 30. The sketch is far too short and except for those who know personally the eminent librarian Mr Keogh has become, gives little of the power, efficiency, idealism, practical vision and scholarly attainments of the quiet, rather reserved librarian who has come to full flower in his professional works at an early age, in which his vision of the great library for Yale university has taken form in these magnificent plans.

Presidential Opinions

On the evening of the anniversary of Washington's birthday, February 22, President Coolidge spoke before the Department of superintendence of the National Education Association which met that week in Washington. His speech was worthy of the occasion and showed the President a firm believer in that education that will level up, not level down, of which there is much danger in the present mixed population. He called for the devotion of every person to the cause of education under the higher conception of life.

President Coolidge traced the development of education in America from the earliest days, strongly emphasizing Washington's belief in education for all the people. He quoted extensively from Washington's writings and letters and particularly from his messages to Congress.

Knowledge is, in every country, the surest basis of happiness. To the security of a free constitution, it contributes in various ways . . . every valuable end of government is best answered by the enlightened confidence of the people and by teaching them to know and to value their rights.

Washington distinguished between oppression and the necessary exercise of lawful authority; he urged Americans to discriminate the spirit of liberty from that of license, cherishing the first and avoiding the last; to provide a firm but temperate vigilance against encroachments with an inviolable respect for the laws of the land.

In his farewell address, Washington advised: "Promote, then, as an object of primary importance, the institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened."

President Coolidge added much from his own store of belief and purpose. He expressed the thought that prosperity and security are products of the mind and soul. They result from the character of the American people and not from their material possessions.

Bibliographical Society of America

The Midwinter meeting of the Bibliographical society of America was a dual affair, the first day's program being presented at Ann Arbor, Mich., December 29, with the American historical association, and the second in Chicago with the Council meetings of the A. L. A. Considerable interest was shown at both places and a wider audience was thus secured.

H. M. Lydenberg, New York public library, made the first address at Ann Arbor. He discussed the National union list of periodicals and the completion of Sabin's dictionary of books relating to America. Mr Lydenberg gave the history of Sabin and his dictionary and sketched the period after Sabin's death in 1881. Wilberforce Eames, New York public library, carried on the work until 1893 as a labor of love but increasing duties prevented its completion. In 1924 the A. L. A. picked up the work, but when the society received a fund from the Carnegie Corporation, the A. L. A. gave up the work to them. Considerable copy is now on hand and it is hoped that one part, 96 pages, will be ready for delivery by the middle of the present year. It is expected the work will be completed in less than six volumes, about 30 parts which will cost \$4 each. Mr Eames is again giving valuable aid. There are now 135 subscribers. Captain John Smith is still a stumbling block as he was to Sabin.

Mr Lydenberg reported on the National union list of periodicals, its initiation and the subscriptions that are making it possible to carry on the work at the present time, how all editions are provided for—the checking edition, the provisional edition, the final edition—that the checking edition has reached *p*, and that the Roman alphabet will be followed by lists of periodicals in Cyrillic, Hebrew, Yiddish and Arabic. The work will list about 40,000 holdings in 160 to 170 libraries, and will be an exceedingly valuable tool for all research.

Prof G. M. Dutcher, Wesleyan uni-

versity, Middletown, Conn., told of the work of the Guide to historical literature. This work was initiated by the A. L. A. in 1919, when the A. L. A. asked the American historical association to prepare an up-to-date revision of Adams' Manual of historical literature. The enterprise developed into a new work, not a revision, and so the title was changed. Prof Dutcher gave a description of the field covered, classification of titles, and much information as to what was included and how the work was progressing. He was quite humorous in his description of the obstacles and delays in the work, stating that coöperative work is of great value but not a speedy production. The work is expected to be issued in 1926, "a work which everyone will criticise, and in which error and omission will be found and yet which will stand as a critical aid and evolution of the best historical literature available today."

Prof E. C. Richardson, Princeton university, speaking on the topic, Immediate coöperation for bibliographical results, emphasized his great belief in coöperation in bibliography. He reviewed what has been done, mentioning going enterprises in bibliography such as the Union list, the Union card catalogs in Europe and America, etc. For immediate work, Dr Richardson suggested: 1) the international catalog should be saved, 2) scientific abstracts should be completely organized, 3) the Union card finding list for American libraries should be brought to completion, 4) a modified and extended list of special collections should be made, and 5) a clearing house for "going" bibliographic enterprises should be established. Dr Richardson considers the Union catalog the most important of all the work because not more than one-fourth of all the titles so far listed are to be found in any one library. There are from eight to ten million titles in the world's great libraries. A union catalog would list where all these different works could be found.

Such a catalog would eliminate waste in buying, cataloging and borrowing.

It was suggested that a committee be appointed and a meeting held next October.

Dr Randolph Adams, librarian, William L. Clement library, Ann Arbor, discussed the relationship between the historian and a library of rare books. He emphasized the importance of a knowledge of bibliography and an understanding of source material. He urged study of the progress and development of printing and also close relation between historian and book collector. The latter, despite his lack of formal education or graduate work but because of his interest, develops into an authoritative writer in fields in which he is interested. The historian needs to catch some of this spirit, thus giving history writing what it now lacks. A library of rare books often uncovers possible bibliophiles and develops an idea of the care necessary for rare books, which latter needs to be improved. The historical investigator will be served by the library in its offering "the opportunity of following his work by sharing in the joys and human emotions of the bibliophile."

Dr W. W. Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, described the papyrus collection in the university library, now numbering 3500 papyri.

At the close of Dr Bishop's address, the company adjourned to the Treasure rooms in the main library of the Clement library, where the meeting was held, to inspect their contents.

The meeting in Chicago, January 2, repeated in a measure what was given at the Ann Arbor meeting. Other discussions were the earliest known arithmetic in America, by Prof L. C. Karpinski, University of Michigan, and the *Cavagna Sangiuliani* library, by Meta Sexton, University of Illinois, this library having been acquired recently by the university.

The last of the meeting was taken up with discussion of recent important collections added to university li-

braries. Prof A. S. Root, Oberlin college, called attention to the British museum catalog of printed books, stating that the present copies in American libraries are rapidly wearing out, due to constant use, and that a large number of college and university libraries not possess copies. Professor Root suggested photographic reproduction of the Museum catalog as it is today with the additions and corrections which have been made since 1880. This suggestion met with favor and the president was empowered to carry on further investigation and report at a subsequent meeting the possibilities and costs of the project.

League of Library Commissions Meeting in Chicago

The League of library commissions held a meeting in Chicago, January 1, Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian, California, in the chair. The program was confined to discussion of projects for library extension.

Essae M. Culver, Louisiana library commission, reported on the progress of the Carnegie demonstration in Louisiana. (See LIBRARIES 31:77) C. B. Lester, Wisconsin free library commission, gave an interesting talk on library extension and coöperation between the league and the A. L. A. He quoted the statement, "Half the people of the country are without direct local library service." He maintained that the state as a political unit is a recognized agency for library extension activity.

The appointment of a committee on library extension by the A. L. A. promises good results. This committee will have under consideration what the association might do to promote library service for those without it, also determine who and where are the people without library service. The committee must depend largely upon those engaged in state extension work to furnish information as to what is now available in library service for the people.

What the league can do to promote library development was presented by Jesse Cunningham, Tennessee. Speaking for his own state, Mr Cunningham mentioned that the libraries in the state best known to the profession are at Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga and Knoxville but that there are other libraries in operation. Tennessee has one free tax-supported county library, two free tax-supported municipal libraries with some county extension, seven tax-supported municipal libraries and nine subscription libraries with small city or club appropriation. A county library law lies dormant. The state library is struggling with meager appropriation and cramped quarters. The library movement in the state has not kept pace with other educational, cultural and industrial developments. The Library association alone recognizes a responsibility for greater library interest. The fault has not been indifference or a lack of devotion to the cause of libraries but lack of knowledge as to what the communities in the state are doing or are trying to do in library matters. There is no accurate mailing list of Tennessee libraries and library workers, no accurate record of the annual circulation or reference use of books, and no properly organized or properly supported state department of library extension. The Tennessee library association has a committee to make a survey of library conditions in the state and to make discoveries as to exact library facilities. It will work out a program setting a definite goal to be accomplished within a given period.

Julia A. Robinson, Iowa, asked for more opportunity for discussion of details of the League's work. There have been plenty of papers but no opportunity for exchange of ideas. It would be helpful to have standards for state library work and state appropriations. The League should investigate and make suggestions. There is need of more county library propaganda; there is also need for more public speakers who would spend some time either in

one county or at large in the interest of county libraries. Library information broadcast by radio would also be helpful.

Anna May Price, Illinois, said that the state needs to create an idea in the minds of the public as to what a library should be. She urged a new concept—that a library is not primarily a service of recreational reading but presents opportunity for self education and development. Few libraries in Illinois save in the large cities are active in increasing educational facilities. The growth in public libraries has in no wise kept pace with the telephone, the automobile and the radio. Miss Price suggested radio information about county libraries, articles in the associated press, in popular magazines, journals, etc., slips in packages sent out by mail-order firms. The League should ask the coöperation of organizations in making a place on their programs for librarians to speak on what the public library can do. These conditions and needs of Illinois are probably not unlike those of adjoining states.

Nellie Williams, Nebraska, suggested weeding out undesirable books from children's libraries. She would like to see emphasis placed by the League on the use of the A. L. A. list of books for children's libraries. Nebraska sends the Pope list, published by the A. L. A., and the Hunt list to all its libraries.

H. S. Hirshberg, Ohio, gave an explanation of the Ohio district library law. He called attention to the various forms of library organizations permitted. Ohio experience reinforces the opinion that the public library operated directly by the board of education cannot be as efficiently operated as the library under a separate board. It has recently become mandatory upon school boards to elect a library board to operate public libraries.

Ethel M. Fair outlined the library's part in a Better Cities contest in Wisconsin. This contest was inaugurated by the Wisconsin conference of social work, to study various aspects of con-

ditions and needs, and to stimulate interest in community spirit. Ten aspects were considered including the library. The Wisconsin free library commission responded to a call to prepare a score card. Many library authorities were consulted and in the final form, the following headings were used:

Score card	
Building	80 points
Location	
Identification	
Provision for children	
Community use	
Organization and staff.....	105 "
Library board	
Staff—Size and qualifications	
Hours open for service	
Income	125 "
Expenditures, i.e. budget.....	100 "
Circulation	90 "
Book stock.....	100 "
Registration	40 "
Catalog	100 "
Professional literature	50 "
Reference service	50 "
Work with schools.....	80 "
Publicity	40 "
Extension, i.e. outside city.....	40 "
Total.....	1000 points

Fourteen libraries finished the contest and seven others submitted schedules. Mr Wheeler, one of the judges, in commenting on the contest said: "A contest between cities on only one of the various subjects, such as libraries, would have little result. It was by getting the whole community interested that the Wisconsin project succeeded so well. You will never get the leaders of the community to know about their local libraries as they did in this contest by putting on a contest between libraries alone."

On motion of Mrs J. R. Dale, Oklahoma, it was voted that the Wisconsin score card created a standard and that the Executive board be empowered to prepare a scoring schedule to be submitted to the league for action.

The offer of coöperative work extended by the A. L. A. library extension committee in the publication of the *Handbook* was accepted.

Officers elected: President, C. B. Lester, Wisconsin; first vice president,

Fannie C. Rawson, Kentucky; second vice president, Clara F. Baldwin, Minnesota; secretary-treasurer, Mrs Elizabeth Earl, Indiana.

The attendance was not large but definitely interested in gaining information.

Enthusiastic Meeting in Boston

The "spirit of '76" pervaded the recent meetings in Boston when the Massachusetts library club, Special Libraries association of Boston and the conference on adult education took place.

Frank H. Chase, president, Massachusetts library club, introduced Mr Telford, chief of staff, Bureau of public personnel administration, Washington, D. C. Mr Telford had many a good word to say for librarians as a highly selected group, noting that they are many in number but not sufficiently concentrated in any locality to impress either the public or the library trustees. Plumbers are regarded as necessities and are more highly paid than librarians who are regarded as luxuries. Moreover, librarians feel so much reward in the services they render that their appeal for public recognition is correspondingly weakened. Head librarians have not organized their resources individually or collectively for tackling the personal problem, and what efforts they have made are regarded as of the kindergarten type. In his "job analysis" (which librarians fail to assimilate), Mr Telford found that the librarians responded very well to the questionnaire but showed much disagreement on qualification, compensation and the like; which meant that he and his associates had to do much guessing to make the report on personnel, and he frankly admitted that many librarians were outraged by the guesses. He emphasized the need for the same terminology thruout the country, noting for instance that 25 different names were found for senior assistant. Standardization of terminology will greatly facilitate transfer from one department to

another and from one library to another, and will give a better idea of what to expect from the registration of applicants. But above all, recognition by the public of the worth of library work is the big thing to be secured. All else is incidental to it. Mr Telford said that the answers of librarians on some intelligence tests were surprising, their answers even on mathematical questions being vastly superior to candidates for the army.

In the round-table on fitting oneself for the library profession, E. Kathleen Jones of the State commission and Edith Guerrier of the Boston public library branches, both emphasized such things as background, initiative and intellectual curiosity as of more consequence than mere technique. They advised that students take cultural subjects in the summer courses rather than library technique, and in training classes exercises based on the encyclopedias, dictionaries, histories, etc., to make live workers, interested in what they are doing, trusting that the technique will come as a by-product. They encouraged the newcomers to feel that thru the library they may have opportunities elsewhere — a thought seconded by William Coolidge Lane, librarian of Harvard university, that the more generous the library is in commending its workers in response to outside calls, the more it attracts the better class of workers to its own staff.

W. Phillip Shatts, Extension service, Adult Education association of New York, in speaking on how free hours are used by adults, said a survey made by People's college, Pocono, Pa., showed that factory workers, for instance, are far more inclined to the movies than to the public library—80 per cent *vs* 12 per cent. This subject is a large one and doubtless will be taken up by the Commission on adult education.

Lydia W. Masters, librarian of the Watertown public library, speaking for the Boston Book Review group of Greater Boston, read some interesting

returns showing that the reviewers condemned many a book without hesitation. A standard form for reviewing has been worked out by the Somerville public library, which is recommended for other book review groups. "Recent books for small libraries" is the title of the mimeographed sheet that this club distributes at 50 cents a year.

In a symposium on the functioning of special libraries, F. A. Mooney, librarian, Dennison Manufacturing Company, said that to study the organization, coördinate the library facilities with the demands of the business, scout for material and give publicity to the resources, are the big factors of their library service and the *Library Review*, which they freely distributed, testifies to a splendid work. When the library associations have their sponsorships launched for business, the Dennison people will certainly be represented as sponsors for progressive methods in factory libraries for popular, cultural, and technical reading and reference work.

Marion G. Eaton, librarian, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, said that her library was one of the pooled resources of the 12 Federal Reserve districts of the United States, each of which publishes a monthly review, while the *Federal Reserve Bulletin* from Washington, coördinates them all. Librarians well know what analytical indexing means, and the card catalog of Miss Eaton's library is constantly growing with references to articles in the magazines. Multiply this by 12 (on the assumption that the 11 others are doing the same and are all working in coöperation with the municipal libraries) and a vision of a library system arises from which the word "public" may be dropped wherever found, because the knowledge of the business world, in its special libraries, is simply an extension of what every citizen has come to regard as his natural resource.

When William Alcott, librarian of the *Boston Globe* and president of the Special Libraries association of Bos-

ton, said that recently on the death of a prominent manufacturer, clippings that concerned his name extending from 1900—1926 were handed by the library to the editorial department for immediate use, he suggested what what goes on in varying measure thruout the country.

The library for the social worker and for students of social work, called the Social Service library, naturally sponsors an important section of the Dewey 300's, and Margaret Withington, the librarian, called attention to the enormous use of pamphlets as source material for intensive study. Look to the Social Service library, 18 Joy St., Boston, on community health, housing, industrial hygiene and the whole gamut of morality and welfare work. Incidentally, Miss Withington observed that she uses the Library of Congress system and the A. L. A. list of subject headings.

When D. N. Handy, president of the national Special Libraries association, referred to the equipment of the Insurance Library association of Boston, which serves all New England, he well illustrated the service in calling attention to accurate information in the collection of insurance maps which are corrected to date. The cost of maintenance of the insurance maps covering the New Haven district alone is \$500 a year. The public is not entitled to use these maps directly, as they represent an exclusive service which is highly paid for.

Prof Charles T. Copeland is one of the greatest assets of Boston and vicinity, and the audience was fairly spell-bound by his reading of Bacon's Essay on revenge, Mary Wilkins Freeman's story, The Revolt of mother, and A. A. Milne's poem, The King's breakfast.

Supper at the Twentieth Century club was followed by a reception given to Mr and Mrs Belden, and then by Mr Belden's address, in which he dwelt somewhat on the meaning of adult education—the subject of the session which followed the next morn-

ing. He called attention to the space to be allotted at the Philadelphia Sesquicentennial to the A. L. A., saying that the exhibit is being prepared by nearly 200 experts, and will show all phases of library work, including a model library room.

Prof Wallace B. Donham, dean of the Harvard graduate school of business administration, told of the use of the case system for studying business problems, which is proving to be as successful as in the study of law. He and Mr Belden have been working hand and glove in their joint interests, and it looks as if the day were near at hand when Boston would have a down-town branch for business purposes.

The appreciative words for Mr Belden that were expressed by different speakers of the evening meant a great deal to the assembled librarians who take much pride in having this year one of their own group as president of the A. L. A.

Of equal consequence was the conference on adult education, at which many librarians were present. Mr Moyer, director of University extension, was chairman, and the first speaker was Payson Smith, commissioner of education of Massachusetts. Dr Smith is of the opinion, in which doubtless most librarians will concur, that education never ends, tho for some of us it is organized, and for some it is not. Social progress can only come thru a process of education, and this is being recognized by the working classes who more and more feel it important to take extension courses. About 67,000 people are taking adult education courses in Massachusetts. It is interesting to note that while at the start the tendency is to take courses that bear directly upon the day's work, afterwards those who take such courses become interested in cultural studies.

Nathaniel Pfeffer of the Carnegie Corporation raised the question, "How are we going to keep students in adult educational courses from walking out

when they please?" Adult education needs to be recognized as compulsory. The question was too big a one to be considered at that meeting but certainly gives food for thought.

Other speakers included, Mr Chase of the Boston public library who told how that library meets the student more than half way, and said there is a growing tendency to have reading advisers as part of the service; Mr Wooster of Brockton, who called attention to the need for books on educational work combining scholarship and simplicity; Mr Dooley, supervisor, division of University extension, who referred to the coming of junior colleges to prevent a break between the ordinary school education and the extension courses that are usually resorted to after several years' experience, and who also referred to the courses in foreign affairs in which the leading citizens of Gloucester have directed reading; he also told of the increasing vogue, in correspondence courses and radio courses; Lila Neves, supervisor, school department, New Bedford, on Adult alien education; Mr Shatts, Extension service, Adult Education association, who named three points in regard to adult education—1) Who wants it? 2) What does he want? 3) What have we to offer?—and a possible fourth point—if we haven't what he wants, it may be possible to form a special group; John Van Vaerenwyck of Boston Trade Union college who told of the high grade of teaching that was carried on in that institution; L. R. Alderman, specialist in adult education, U. S. bureau of education, who expressed delight in the information which he had gathered from the meeting and who wished that the report might be spread the country over; and Mr Gordon of Crompton & Knowles Loom Works, Worcester, who told of the many different courses conducted in that organization, which not only enable the workers to find themselves but enable the employers to promote from the

ranks rather than bring in experts from without.

At the close, Mr Moyer regretted that there was not time for discussion but hoped there would be a subsequent conference for discussion only.

Illinois Library Association

The Illinois library association will meet, May 12-14, at Mt. Vernon, in southern Illinois. Only three times in its 30 years of existence has this association met south of the center of the state, in 1900 and 1909 at East St. Louis and in 1912 at St. Louis with the Missouri library association. The springtime date was selected in accordance with the A. L. A. suggestion that autumn dates for state meetings be avoided this year.

An interesting program is being planned and a large attendance is hoped for. Many good roads leading to Mt. Vernon have brought out the possibility of planning motor bus trips to and through the southern Illinois country. Several interesting and reasonably priced trips from the northern portion of the state have been discovered.

HARRIET M. SKOGH
President

A controversy of some interest to the library world is that concerning the family library of the Hohenzollerns which is claimed by the German republic as property of the state. The library comprises about 100,000 volumes in addition to numerous maps, musical publications and sketches. Pending the ultimate decision of the courts, the library is housed in the Royal castle at Berlin. The library was founded in 1862 by the consolidation of the libraries in the various castles of Prussian rulers. Within the last 50 years, the library has developed under the personal care of the librarians of the royal household until, by additions through imperial edicts of a large number of small libraries scattered throughout the empire, it has grown from a few thousand volumes to more than 100,000 volumes.

Library Meetings

Louisiana—The second annual meeting of the Louisiana library association was held in Lafayette at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, January 6-7. Dr Edwin L. Stephens, president of the Louisiana library association and also president of Southwestern Louisiana Institute, gave an address of welcome at the first session. Mr William Beer, librarian of the Howard memorial library, New Orleans, gave the principal address of the afternoon, on *Louisiana*. Mr Beer has been interested for many years in collecting material on Louisiana, and he gave a very interesting historical sketch of such work in the state.

A banquet, prepared by the Home Economics department of the college, was served to 50 librarians on Wednesday night. This was the banner session, for two distinguished librarians gave of their inspiration and enthusiasm. The first of these was Miss Sarah Bogle, secretary of the A. L. A. and director of the American library school in Paris, France. She gave a most interesting talk on Education for librarianship. Following her, Milton J. Ferguson, librarian of the California state library at Sacramento and chairman of the League of library commissions, gave an address on Librarianship and education. Thomas M. Callahan, editor of the *Daily Advertiser* in Lafayette, responded to these two talks with one on The library and the newspaper.

The Thursday morning session was opened by a talk on the Louisiana library commission by Miss Essae M. Culver who has been sent to Louisiana by the League of library commissions as executive secretary of the Louisiana library commission to carry on a demonstration of library commission work under the \$50,000 gift from the Carnegie Corporation, which Louisiana was fortunate enough to obtain in competition with 10 other states. Miss Culver is doing splendid work in the state. Her first and greatest effort in beginning the work is to create an interest in establishing parish libraries throughout the state. Under her able administration the movement is

growing so rapidly that it looks now as if six or eight parishes might establish libraries during the first year of her work. The whole country is looking toward Louisiana in this commission work demonstration, and it is to be hoped not only that great things may be accomplished, but also that the state may prove worthy and appreciative of this gift which she has secured.

The morning session was broken by a visit made by the association to the Southwestern Louisiana Institute during the daily assembly period. Mr Ferguson and Mr Gill, librarian of the New Orleans public library, addressed the student body at this time. After the re-assembling of the Library association, Mr Gill gave an address on A quarter-century of growth in the New Orleans public library.

The same officers were re-elected for the coming year, namely: Dr Edwin L. Stephens, president of Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, president; Mrs Lois White Henderson, librarian, Shreve memorial library, Shreveport, and Mrs Esther F. Harvey, librarian, Newcomb college library, New Orleans, vice-presidents; Miss Lois F. Shortess, librarian, Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, secretary; Miss Virginia Fairfax, New Orleans, treasurer. Besides the officers, the other two members of the executive committee were also re-elected, as follows: Mrs Lillian Herron Mitchell, librarian, Monroe public library, and Miss Helen Spencer Ryan, librarian, U. S. Veterans' hospital, No. 27, Alexandria.

LOIS F. SHORTESS

Nebraska—The Omaha-Council Bluffs librarians' club held its annual meeting, January 13. After the business meeting, Maurice Block, director of the Omaha society of fine arts, talked on Current expressions in painting.

The following officers were elected: President, Zora Shields, Central high-school library, Omaha; vice-president, Kate Swartzlander, South Side branch, Omaha; secretary and treasurer, Ruth McIlvane, Florence branch, Omaha.

Philadelphia—The Special libraries council of Philadelphia and vicinity held a meeting, January 8, in the new home of the *Public Ledger* library, where the workings of a newspaper library were explained and illustrated by J. F. Kwapil, librarian. Mr Kwapil reviewed the rapid development of the newspaper library in the past 10 years and its value not only to newspapers but to the public generally with its continuous twenty-four-hour service and its vast files covering every field of human endeavor. Mr Kwapil pointed out the short cuts to information that it is found advisable to adopt, thereby eliminating many features of the regular library.

At the close of the meeting a tour of the *Public Ledger* plant disclosed the actual operations in the publication of a newspaper. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr Kwapil for the very profitable and enjoyable meeting.

Coming meetings

The next meeting of the New Hampshire library association will be held in Littleton, June 28-30.

The Iowa library association will meet in Iowa City, July 6-8, at the close of the summer library school.

The regular meeting of the Southeastern library association will be held at Signal Mountain, Tenn., April 22-24.

This will partake somewhat of a national character as several of the A. L. A. committees will assemble at this time for conference. The committee on library extension will have an important meeting.

The next meeting of the Special libraries association of Boston will be held March 29, at the Dennison Manufacturing Company library in Framingham. The April meeting will be held at the Charlestown navy yard with Admiral Elliot Snow, U. S. N., describing the navy library.

Illinois library association will hold its annual meeting at Mt. Vernon May 12-14. Full particulars will be sent out in a short time.

Interesting Things in Print

Books recommended by the National Association of Book Publishers, New York City, for March cover three interests—health, religion and internationalism, the last being for Girl Scout's international month.

Lexington, Kentucky, celebrated its sesqui-centennial in 1925. In honor of the occasion, the Public library of that city prepared a program (112 p.) of interesting historical facts relating to Kentucky. A number of these programs remain on hand and will be sent to any one desiring them as long as the supply lasts, at 50 cents each.

No. 7 in v. 1, *Adult Education and the Library*, published by the A. L. A., is devoted to a discussion of books and their uses for "older boys and girls out of school." This is one of the most important presentations in the series and ought to be in the hands of teachers and parents as well as those interested in library service.

For distribution at the Wurlitzer musical instrument exhibit held in February, the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh published an interesting little list of books called *Orchestral instruments*. The exhibit was of great historic value as such a complete and interesting collection had not been assembled since 1878 in London.

A helpful tool near at hand is the catalog issued by the Popular Mechanics Press, Chicago, *Books on a thousand subjects*. This pamphlet of 32 pages, the books classified by subject and with various sized type to bring out the different classes, may be had free on application to the Popular Mechanics Press, 210 East Ontario St., Chicago.

The Free public library, Jersey City, N. J., issued as a birthday memorial to Benjamin Franklin a brochure giving a most entertaining and sufficiently full outline of his life. The story, stripped of the details which so many times crowd out facts in biography, is most interesting. It closes with a list of

books on Franklin to be found in the Jersey City public library.

A new edition of Practical lessons in parliamentary procedure, also of Ready reference on principal parliamentary points, two very valuable and excellently prepared manuals by Mary Redfield Plummer of the Chicago woman's club, have been issued for clubs and organizations. Ready reference on principal parliamentary points, 24°, with its thumb index, is a valuable ready tool for any presiding officer.

A supplement to the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* for January is a short play by Harriet C. Long of the Wisconsin library commission entitled, *Why not?* A drama with a purpose. This is an argument very cleverly worked out in support of county libraries. The play may be had from A. L. A. Headquarters, 86 East Randolph St., Chicago, for 20 cents. Discounts for quantities of 10 or more.

A new list of books under the title, *Do you want a book?* (enlarged edition) has been issued by the Wisconsin free library commission's Traveling library department. The list, larger than previous ones, is arranged under subjects and gives very explicit directions on how to borrow books by mail from the commission. Little paragraphs, questions and comments tucked in here and there, make the list not only useful but interesting.

Two short booklists just issued for the Patriotic month of February by the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh are Abraham Lincoln and his time and In the days of Washington. First are listed biographies of the patriots, then come stories in which Washington and Lincoln are the heroes, then stories of the wars in which they figured and, last of all, books to help in celebrating their birthdays.

The *January Bulletin of the Department of Education*, Boston, gives a list of the subjects in the State university extension classes in Boston and vicin-

ity. The list is valuable to librarians outside the region in that it is full of suggestions for courses of reading that might be helpful in places away from Boston. Most of these subjects and many others are entered in a correspondence course at a nominal cost. Further information will be furnished by James A. Moyer, director, 217 State House, Boston 9, Mass.

A note in *Books for All*, issued by the Public library, Providence, R. I., states that after a careful study of adult education as it has been established in the libraries of Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Indianapolis, it has been decided to introduce a similar program into the Providence library. A preliminary announcement was made last June and more than 50 have registered for study courses covering a great variety of subjects, the fields of industry, literature and business having attracted most attention.

The report of the A. L. A. board of education for librarianship on Provisional minimum standards for summer courses in library science, prepared for the Mid-winter meeting of the A. L. A. council, has been issued. There are two pages setting out the views of the committee and the reasons which actuated it in its conclusions, setting up minimum standards. It is all interesting reading whether one agrees with it or not, and the length of the report, five pages, precludes any weariness in perusing the suggestions.

The January issue of the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* marks the twenty-first birthday of that very interesting and valuable publication. The salutatory reviews the ground covered in the 21 years and pays special tribute to the helpfulness and achievement of such men as Reuben Gold Thwaites, Frank A. Hutchins and Henry E. Legler. The *Bulletin* is correct in the belief that it has "brought some contributions of more than ephemeral value." It has been quite generous in reporting the achievements in the library world and library service that has been ably sup-

ported by the *Bulletin*. There has been much of value in "the continuous flow of practical treatises on what libraries are doing and may do."

A revised edition of Lists of stories and programs for story hours, by Effie L. Power, director, Work with children, Public library, Cleveland, O., has been issued. (Wilson) Much of the material used in former editions has been rewritten or revised for this book and the lists have been kept brief and to a high standard. Additional material bringing the list down to date has been included. Each group of stories is preceded by explanatory notes as to its purpose and the best use which can be made of the material.

Miss Power's work in compiling and arranging programs for story hours has been so signally worth while that those interested in the same always find in her writings much material that is of value in their work.

John A. Roebling's Sons Company, Trenton, N. J., manufacturers of iron, steel and copper wire rope and wire, has issued a handsome brochure entitled Construction of parallel wire cables for suspension bridges. The book is a scientific and photographic study of cable fabrication and is extremely interesting from a technical standpoint. Technical libraries or high school libraries where a considerable number of students are interested in the subject of bridge construction would greatly appreciate the drawings, pictures and views in the book. It is of undoubted educational interest in giving information on the construction of wire bridge cables. The study and photographs touch specially on the Bear Mountain suspension bridge crossing the Hudson river between Bear mountain and Anthony's Nose.

Roebling's Sons Company will send copies of this study to any library requesting it.

The *Nebraska Studies in Business*, issued by the College of business administration, University of Nebraska, is a bit of commendable "survey," as

showing the operating expenses of retail stores in Nebraska for 1924 and also the spirit of university studies coming down to everyday affairs of the people who support the state universities. Doubtless these studies in business are being well used by those for whom they are prepared, Nebraska citizens, but since the business of this state is not unlike that of the majority of Midwestern states, the findings of this study should be of interest to retail merchants in that whole region. Moreover, it may serve as an object lesson to people in the retail business as to what the library really can and does do for those who support it.

No. 14 of the series deals with Some aspects of grocery-store failures. No. 13 with the shoe trade.

A second and revised edition of Easy books for new Americans, with a reading list for Americanization workers, has been issued. The list was compiled by Edna Phillips, secretary, Work with foreigners, Division of public libraries, Massachusetts department of education, Boston, as a tool for her work. The foreword to the list says that first choice in the easy books has been given to those specially written for adults who are beginners in studying English.

The great difficulty with the lists of books for foreigners is that too many times the compiler forgets that intellectual development is not brought about by absorption of knowledge which appears alone in the English language. Many persons are fairly well educated in science, art, literature and religion but are not familiar with the English language. They are ready to learn understandingly higher forms of thought and expression than "I see the cat." Miss Phillips has evidently kept this in mind in choosing these books.

A list of books for children under the title, Book of the children's room, while prepared on a commercial basis, is a fair sample of the special attention which publishers and booksellers are giving in this children's age, to placing the handling of books for chil-

dren on a solid foundation built on knowledge and experience. This pamphlet is one of a number prepared under the direction of Mr E. C. Kyte, a former librarian of standing, who is developing a very remarkable children's department. The foreword of the Book of the children's room explains the attractive little pamphlet of 32 pages in blue and gold in which are given the titles, authors and prices of attractive children's books offered by the publisher, Bumpus, Ltd., of London:

Hullo!
This is the Children's Room calling. I want to tell all boys and girls about this book. It isn't divided into chapters, like an ordinary book; it is divided into voices. One or two talk French, but all the rest speak English; and as you turn the pages you will hear them calling, quietly, anxiously—calling you to stay a moment and to listen. When you come to me (as I do hope you will) and see my bright necklace and queer girdle, you will see on every shelf the books that really mean something, that really say something. Those are the books to take home.

In order to facilitate the borrowing of books, a system of identification cards for adult borrowers was inaugurated in the early fall. This system does away with the filing of borrowers' cards at the library and also prevents the use of cards by people to whom they do not belong. A small card, of a size convenient for carrying in a purse or card case, is used in place of the larger card which was formerly used.—*Report of City library, Wichita, Kan., 1925.*

A timely publication on children's reading is that issued by the A. L. A. in its *Reading with a Purpose* series. This presentation, *Our children*, is by Prof M. V. O'Shea, University of Wisconsin, too well known as a student of child psychology to need more than a word.

After dealing with the various stages of the child's development, Prof O'Shea makes a strong presentation of definite opinions with regard to literature relating to child life. He recom-

mends in the course the following books:

The child: His nature and his needs, O'Shea (Children's foundation, Valparaiso, Ind.); The happy baby, Holt (Dodd); Wholesome childhood, Groves (Houghton); Diet for children (and adults), Peters (Dodd); Reveries of a father, Crawley (Appleton); Youth in conflict, Van Waters (Republican Pub. Co.).

Another contribution to the *Reading with a Purpose* series is *Psychology* and its use by Everett Dean Martin, for nine years lecturer in social psychology at Cooper Union, said to be the largest center for the free discussion of public and educational subjects in the country. His lectures on psychology recently given at Cooper Union attracted the largest audiences in the history of the forum. After discussing psychology, and its relation to other subjects of human interest, Prof Martin recommends the following books for students:

Psychology, briefer course, James (Holt); Psychology: A study of mental life, Woodworth (Holt); Behaviorism, Watson (Peoples Institute Pub. Co.); Psychology and the day's work, Swift (Scribner); Social psychology, Allport (Houghton).

Books and Libraries in Coöperative Work

Nos. 4 and 5 (second year) of the *Bulletin of the International University Information Office* published by the League of Nations committee on intellectual coöperation, contains 24 pages in the section designated as *Annex* relating to American Books and libraries "from the standpoint of coöperation" by Dr E. C. Richardson, honorary director, Princeton university library.

Here are the essential facts concerning the mediums and conditions of book service in all the various aspects in America. The thanks of the library profession not only in America but abroad are doubly due Dr Richardson for this important information contributed to a medium that will give it the very widest range possible. The potentiality of this effort for understanding concerning the American spirit of coöperation in the

book world is not equalled by any other effort at work.

Dr Richardson's contribution is a logical and informative presentation. Under *Authorship* he deals with the annual production of volumes, pamphlets and periodicals, and the production of the drama, photodrama and music.

When one thinks of this very clear and concise but comprehensive statement, going before the Committee on intellectual coöperation of some 54 countries, one's mind can be relieved of the fear of his work not being understood or appreciated by those in other parts of the world. Dr Richardson has done well a great piece of work that is much needed in the present stage of international understanding. While his work is intended primarily for those outside of membership in American library circles, it may be stated without fear of reliable contradiction that much of it is needed by and would prove enlightening to a large part of those enrolled in American librarianship.

Under *Organization of products*, he deals with associations, foundations, universities, etc. He discusses organization of production in its various forms, both publishing and bookselling. Here Dr Richardson is to be especially commended for presenting the professional side of this very important work. Too often the business of publishing and selling books is regarded incorrectly by persons in the ranks of book handlers who do not know it; it is often judged without understanding even by people who use books.

Under *Libraries*, is given quite extended statistics with regard to number, size, character, etc. Control of libraries is presented very clearly and interestingly. The different kind of libraries bibliographical descriptions, and the coördinating factors in library service are given adequately and without prejudice. Under *Library coöperation* are discussed collections — use, selection, cataloging, analyticals, classification, lending and borrowing and reference work.

A New Publication

The Staff association of the New York public library has started publication of a staff bulletin. The object of the bulletin is set forth on the first page of No. 1, v. 1 as follows:

To provide a means whereby the members of the N. Y. P. L. staff may:
keep informed as to the activities of the Staff association;
consider together problems of library administration affecting them in their daily work;
exchange ideas of interest to them as library workers;
increase their professional skill by the discussion of practical library topics;
build up their professional organization as a means of improving their service to the public and the conditions under which they work;
keep in touch with what is going on in the library movement in other parts of the world.

Communication is invited from other library groups desirous of promoting such contact. Address, Editorial committee, *Staff Bulletin*, 11 West Fortieth Street, New York.

The paper is good looking, full of items that will interest, told in good style, and deserves success.

The January number of *Readers' Ink* (Public library, Indianapolis) is largely devoted to an exposition of its Monday night book talks, which "appear to be a permanent institution. The library finds that it has started something which the reading public will not permit to be discontinued." These meetings are gathering places for real book lovers who contribute intimate literary information such as is never found in print, and are providing a kinship of book-fellow for book-fellow and a growing appreciation of good reading that make the gatherings of inestimable value to the community.

For March, there has been provided a "Symposium of book enthusiasts" in which a number of well-known book people will participate—Kate Milner Rabb, Percy Beach, Meredith Nicholson, Dr F. S. C. Wicks, Anna Nicholas, Margaret Donnan, Grace Thompson, Dr O. W. Fifer, Anna Ray Burns.

Library Schools

Carnegie library, Atlanta

The school's introduction into the academic world was made at the Founders' Day banquet which was celebrated by Emory university, January 25. The members of the class who fully qualify, and the faculty were present. The class received enthusiastic recognition by the alumni, the senior classes of the various schools of the university, and the university faculty.

Another event was the all-university convocation held in the university's new library building. The library school students were conducted through the building where they are to carry on a part of their practice work.

The method of grading in examination at the end of the first semester was in accordance with the practice of Emory university. Practice work this semester receives increased emphasis, and the schedule of assignments to the various departments of the Carnegie public library and the Emory University library is now in operation.

WINIFRED LEMON DAVIS
Principal

Drexel Institute

The school has completed its first semester with satisfactory results, the work going much faster with a class composed entirely of college graduates. The mid-year is characterized by a lightening of routine and more time spent in the study of administrative detail.

The comparatively small class has produced a spirit of informality and in the midst of routine a feeling for the spirit of library work. Every effort is being made to develop individual tendencies in the student. With the New Year, the Drexel Faculty council granted full graduate student privileges to the school.

In addition to the regular lectures and reports, the students have enjoyed several outside lectures—Dr L. W. Flaccus, University of Pennsylvania, on the Impressionistic drama, and Jean E. Grafen, Free library of Philadelphia, on the periodical department of a large library. Mildred H. Pope, librarian, Girard college, has just completed a course of lec-

tures on loan desk work. Joseph L. Wheeler, Youngstown, O., visited the school, February 12, and spoke on the Library and the community. Carl H. Milam, A. L. A. secretary, also spoke to the class on the activities of the A. L. A.

The students of the school have joined the A. L. A. with a 100 per cent representation.

ANNE W. HOWLAND
Director

Los Angeles public library

Visits to bookstores, problems in book-trade bibliography and book-buying were illuminated by the lecture on buying rare books, given by Leslie E. Bliss, acting librarian, Huntington library. The students who elected the manuscript problems devised by Captain Haselden spent an afternoon in the Huntington library where an exhibit of unique treasures had been arranged for them. Another delight for the bibliographical enthusiast was the exhibit of Indian, Persian and Italian manuscripts explained by Dr Ettinhausen, bibliographer, connected with Maggs Brothers, who is spending some weeks in Southern California.

Lectures on library work with the blind by Catharine Morrison, state teacher of the blind, and in hospitals by Lula Myers, formerly of the Public library, Omaha, Neb., had a poignant appeal. The entire class and particularly the students who have had practice in story-telling in the branches delighted in the talk of Marian P. Greene, librarian, Alhambra public library, who described the children's libraries in France and told two Hans Anderson tales in her inimitable fashion.

MARION HORTON
Principal

New York public library

A course in the literature of economics is again being included in the senior curriculum. This is a study of reference material in a somewhat specialized field, and a number of experts have been engaged to contribute to it. There are to be three periods in charge of Eunice Miller, Economics division, New York public library; four talks on

material relating to industry by Dr Willard L. Thorp, National bureau of economic research; four lectures on sources of information about finance by Marguerite Burnett, librarian, Federal Reserve Bank, New York; and a discussion of material relating to agriculture by Anna M. Michener, Statistical department, National Bank of Commerce, New York City.

In the junior Administration course there was given recently a lecture on The approach to children's work by Anne Carroll Moore, and one on the activities of the Silas Bronson library of Waterbury, Conn., by L. Lindsey Brown, the head of that library. Miss Bacon's series of hours in the course in junior Book selection was recently completed. Semester examinations were held, February 1-5, and the junior students left for their field work assignments, February 8.

Attention is again called to the contemplated change in entrance requirements, according to which two years of accredited college work will be necessary for admission to the entrance examinations beginning in 1927. Candidates not now able to meet this are advised either to make such preparation as will enable them to qualify by June 1927, or to apply for admission in September 1926 under the old regulations. Entrance examinations for 1926-27 will be held on Saturday, June 12.

ERNEST J. REESE
Principal

New York state library

The work of the second semester began, February 3, and includes several changes in courses. The senior course in selection of books, which up to this time has emphasized public library work, has been reorganized to include selection for the college library. The first semester, on the public library phase of the work, was given by Mary Eastwood; the second semester, planned particularly from the college and university point of view, is being given by Lucy E. Fay. Frank L. Tolman, reference librarian,

New York state library, is in charge of the course in advanced reference hitherto conducted by Mr Wyer. This year, in the course in advanced administration, increased emphasis has been placed on the college library. The first semester, on college library administration, was in charge of Miss Fay. The work of the second semester, on public library administration, was again introduced by Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian, Public library, Youngstown, O., who gave a series of 12 lectures. Mr Wyer will give his usual lectures and Miss Fay will supervise the problem work assigned by Mr Wheeler. In accordance with the plan of organizing the curriculum on the semester basis, for the first time, several courses which have appeared in the catalog under different names have been grouped together as elementary administration. Elementary administration now includes administration, loan work, order work, library buildings, bookbinding and printing. Zaidee Brown will be in charge of administration proper and loan work. Wharton Miller and William F. Yust again return for bookbinding and library buildings. Mary B. Brewster, head of the order section, New York state library, will conduct that part of the course which deals with bookbuying.

Fanny Borden, '00, reference librarian, Vassar college, lectured to the school on inter-library loans.

Rebecca B. Rankin returned to the school to give the concluding lectures on special library work.

Eunice Wead, '02-'03, assistant, William L. Clements library, University of Michigan, will spend the next six months in France and England in graduate study in American history, principally in the Public Records office in London. She will be on leave of absence.

Henrietta Church, '93, died at her home in Albany, January 20, after an illness of several months. She had not been actively engaged in library work since 1897 when she resigned as head cataloger of the Utica public library, but her interest in the work was always keen. She had a wide circle of friends at the school.

EDNA M. SANDERSON
Vice-director

Pratt Institute

The annual luncheon of the Graduates' association was held, February 6. A business meeting preceded the luncheon, at which the following officers were elected: President, Marguerite Burnett; vice-president, Ruth Wellman; secretary, Myrtle I. Roy; treasurer, Louise Hamlin; Executive board, Helen Sayer, Bertha Bassam, Carson Brevoort.

The guest of honor was Henrietta C. Bartlett, the well-known bibliographer and Shakespeare scholar, who gave a talk on rare books that was both illuminating and of absorbing interest. The vice-director spoke on the results of the triennial questionnaire, and the director voiced the spirit of the school—Joy in work.

As usual, the visiting lecturers during the second term are elected in order that they may present to the class their experience as administrators of different types of libraries. The small town library was discussed by Katherine Tapert, librarian, Morristown library, January 5. The medium-sized library was presented by Mr Sanborn of Bridgeport. Mr Hopper gave a picture of the complexities of a big city system. Branch libraries were presented as to their internal administration by Esther Johnston and in relation to differing neighborhoods by Ernestine Rose, both of the New York public library. Edith L. Smith described the work of the library of Morris county. This first-hand presentation of actual experience, wherein the same problems are discussed from different points of view and by different types of personality, is very stimulating to the class.

The school is planning to visit libraries in New York state this spring instead of making its usual Pennsylvania circuit, since the new building of the Philadelphia free library will not be ready for inspection at this time.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE
Vice-director

Simmons college

The Boston athenaeum, the Massachusetts state library, and the meeting of the Massachusetts library club comprised the Boston visits. The two all-

day visits to Providence and Worcester were even more than usually enjoyable and profitable.

Mr Fred Telford gave a most interesting talk on the Personnel classification; Mr Chase spoke on Reference work; Mr Lane gave a charming lecture on the Harvard university library; and Mr Bolton is to speak to the School on the British Museum library, very soon.

The school has had the pleasure of of the duties of the librarian, mainly hearing three persons who have not previously talked at Simmons, Hugo Jahn, Wentworth institute, who spoke on printing; and two lecturers in the Administration course. Joseph L. Wheeler gave an admirable analysis from the point of view of the public librarian. Miss Roberts, librarian of Wellesley college, supplemented it by a talk on the modifications of administration to adapt it to college libraries.

The school is looking forward to Miss Sutliff's visit, February 23, when she will speak on the qualifications of the reference librarian, and also read poetry.

One of the interesting features of the month has been the assignment of the large class to their posts for the fortnight of observation and field work, which begins March 8. As usual the school is much indebted to the libraries which help in this experiment.

The school has received as a gift from Mlle Denise Montel, Simmons '24, an interesting report based on her work in Washington two years ago during her observation period. It bears the title, *Notes sur les organismes de documentation et de recherches économiques aux Etats-Unis*, and is issued as a publication of the *Institut Colonial de Marseille*.

JUNE R. DONNELLY
Director

Syracuse university

In March, 1925, the Alumnae association of the Syracuse library school was revived, and at the first meeting, officers were elected, committees appointed and plans for future meetings

were made. Two meetings were held before the summer period and another again in October. It was voted to reorganize as the Alumnae association, to be governed by the former constitution and to send to the library school alumnae an annual letter telling of the activities and general news of the school. The association voted to lend \$50 a semester to any worthy girl selected by a committee from the association for aid in her senior year of library school. This sum is to be paid back during the recipient's first year out of college.

Western Reserve university

The course in book selection is constantly augmented by talks given by members of the Cleveland public library staff; Miss Louise Prouty, vice-librarian, spoke twice recently, first on the technique of library book talks and later gave a book talk on recent biographies. Miss Leta Adams, head of the order department, told of the work of an order department in a large library, amply illustrated from her practical experience.

The message of the state librarian of Ohio, Herbert S. Hirshberg, is always welcome, and the students had the opportunity of hearing him speak, January 14, on the progress of library affairs in Ohio.

Miss Jessie Welles, assistant librarian, Public library, Toledo, Ohio, in charge of circulation, spoke twice, January 28, on *The Borrower* with a capital B, and Staff relations in libraries large and small, much to the pleasure and profit of all.

Prof Walter Graham, of the English department of Adelbert college, W. R. U., spoke, February 1, on the Origin and growth of English literary periodicals, a subject in which he has made thorough research in English libraries.

Prof Root's course on the history of the printed book is the ever welcome beginning of the second semester; and the course in practical psychology by Prof Grace Preyer Rush of the College for women, W. R. U., has also begun.

ALICE S. TYLER

Library training in China

Central China university, Wuchang, has graduated 22 students since 1920. The graduates are holding positions in eight provinces and eleven cities. The demand for entrance into the school is greater than the opportunities of the school afford. Under the new conditions of the library department made possible by more funds in the past year, it is the plan to make the library school of national importance, and it is expected that a number of students will be sent by the government as well as from mission institutions. The course is being extended to cover one year and there is hope that in time, girl students may be admitted.

The school at present has 15 students under training. In addition to the professors in the college teaching the other academic subjects, there is a regular staff of five teachers, all of whom have had special library training, and six special lecturers, five of whom have had library training in some one of the American library schools. In order to cultivate the widest vision for the school, in the belief that in a multitude of counselors there is wisdom, a board of library councillors has been appointed with 12 distinguished Chinese members and 8 American members.

Summer schools

A summer library course will be offered by the Colorado State agricultural college, Fort Collins, June 7-July 23. Entrance requirements are high-school graduation, appointment to a library position or present library employment. Those interested are asked to address Charlotte A. Baker, principal.

A course in library science is offered by the University of New Hampshire, Durham, June 28-August 6. Courses in the Liberal Arts college also will be open to library science students. Students will be welcome also at the session of the summer library school and institute to be held in Durham, July 26-August 6.

Department of School Libraries

As you grow ready for it, somewhere or other you will find what is needful for you in a book—George MacDonald

The College Library Budget

Professor Walter M. Patton
Carleton college, Northfield, Minn.

Inquiry has shown that college library accounts are kept as the book-keeping department of the college deems most in harmony with the general accounts of the institution. The result is that a full and detailed statement of library expenditures and other costs can rarely be furnished by our college libraries. Such items as the maintenance of the library building, the cost of insurance, the outlay for light and heat, transportation charges, postage charges, bills outstanding and accounts due to the library are commonly difficult to ascertain.

It is too much to expect that the business office of a college should change its system for the accommodation of a single unit of the college organization. It would, however, be of service if all items affecting the library were notified to the librarian and an independent system of accounting were kept for record purposes in the library. This would make available complete information and make possible an answer to all questions affecting the business of that department of the college.

These remarks will explain the inadequacy of the data on which my paper is based. Information as to their budgets was sought from some 21 colleges in our Northwestern territory. Ten responded, and of these, three gave statements which left out quite important particulars of information. Only one or two were able to give complete information as to depreciation, cost of stock and management.

I propose to review some of the facts revealed by the answers received and to indicate the lines which a budget might wisely follow.

I think we may say that the budget of a public library is framed to meet very different needs from those of the

college library. Dr Bostwick in his work, *The American public library*, proposes a standard expenditure of 26 per cent of the total budget for books, magazines and binding and 51 per cent for salaries. For minor kinds of expense he proposes 27 per cent all told.

The data which I have gathered show on the average: 38 per cent spent for books, 55 per cent on salaries and 7 per cent on minor classes of expenses. I suspect that the minor kinds of expense have in some cases been charged to book costs. There is evidence for this in one case reported. In Carleton college, whose figures because too special have not entered into the average for minor expense as they have into those for books and salaries, the amount spent for minor expenses was 27 per cent, for books 33 per cent, salaries 40 per cent.

The larger amount spent by college libraries for books is due to the fact that, as a matter of course, a large percentage of their book buying and periodical buying is for high priced publications. The smaller amount laid out in lesser expenditures is explicable, I feel, by the fact that no college library is run without a painful economy in incidental expenses. The college library, also, often does not have to take account of expense for heating, and its outlay for petty expense and supplies is relatively small. The average percentage for book purchases in the reports which I have received seems to be a fair one. The particular reports show in one case a percentage for this purpose as high as 50 per cent and at the other extreme a figure as low as 27 per cent.

Salaries range from 84 per cent of the total expenditure down to 37 per cent.

These figures serve to indicate where institutions place the emphasis in their library economy. Where a college li-

brary is connected with a library training service it may be necessary to augment the staff and raise the salary percentage at the cost of a reduced purchase of books. On the other hand, a library whose books are few and out of date may awaken to its needs and for years lay stress on the expansion of its resources, not always adequately realizing the urgent need of additions to its staff created by the enlargement of its stock of books.

A more practical question is that of the total appropriation for library purposes. Percentages may be perfectly worked out in a very poor college library. How much the institution is ready to put into library investment and library service is the important matter. Local experience will probably lead to some variation in the apportionment for particular purposes; the point to be impressed is that the amount to be distributed is the essential factor and not the distribution.

The first subject of inquiry in the study of a college library budget is the principle upon which the appropriation is to be made by the board of trustees. One college out of those reporting has a total budget of \$250,000 and a library budget of \$7750 or one-thirty-second of the whole. That is to say, the library received about as much as a department of the college, though in theory the head of the library should rank with a dean or the head of a group of departments and the library itself with such a group. Another college spent \$256,000 in all and for the library \$8330 or one-thirty-fourth of the whole. Example number 3 gives \$85,900 and \$3120 respectively, that is one-twenty-first. The most favorable example reporting has \$223,300 and \$216,000 for 2 years and for library \$15,600 and \$15,760 or one-fourteenth in each year. The lowest rating is that of a college with a budget of \$188,450 and a library expense account of \$3040 or one-fifty-seventh of the whole. My own college may be permitted to report. On a total budget of \$311,000 the library share was one-thirteenth.

I think it reasonable to rule out the cases where the library allowance does not come up to the cost of a single college department. I think also that where there is a great discrepancy between the budgets of different colleges the smaller library budgets can hardly afford a rule for the colleges having larger library expenditures. Keeping these considerations in mind, we select the only two colleges remaining, one recording a library expenditure of one-fourteenth and the other one of one-thirteenth of the whole college budget.

We find in each of these cases that the library is treated on approximately the same basis as two college departments of instruction. On the basis of the actual successful practice in these two cases and not on any ideal basis, we suggest that the college library should be allowed each year one-thirteenth of the whole budget appropriated for college purposes.

The second method of approach to the budget problem is to consider the number of undergraduates as entitled to a certain expenditure for books and periodicals and this as carrying with it expense for service and maintenance in the ratio of 60 to 40.

The figures of book and periodical outlay from my correspondents are as follows:

Library A,	\$5.60 per student
B,	4.40
C,	4.00
D,	7.00
E,	2.80
F,	4.00
G,	3.90
H,	8.70
I,	3.50
Average—\$4.88	

Regarding the books as laboratory material furnished to the students and a yearly fee of \$10 per student as fair, these colleges all fall below the standard. It should be accepted that a college library should spend \$10 per student on books, periodicals and binding (special departments not counted) and that this amount should be supplemented by \$15 for the other expenses or costs of the library. Thus an ideal budget for a college of 500 liberal arts students would work out at \$5000

for books, periodicals and binding and \$7500 for other requirements. For a body of 800 students the figures would be \$8000 and \$12,000, or \$20,000 in all. This line of approach to a budget brings us to about the same result as the principle of one-thirteenth of the whole budget as the library appropriation.

I have tried a third method of arriving at a basis by assuming that teachers should be entitled to an average amount for books and periodicals for their teaching work. The actual distribution might find greater need in some cases and less in others, but the expenditure for books and the total library expenditure would be settled by allowing so much for each agent of instruction.

My data show the following actual conditions:

Library A,	\$59.18	per instructor for books, etc.
B,	92.02	
C,	59.63	
D,	101.67	
E,	50.87	
F,	40.52	
G,	60.00	
H,	102.86	
I,	44.60	Average \$67.93

The amount which should be allowed for each instructor is determined by the accepted ratio of instructors to students in standard colleges. This ratio is 12 students to each instructor. The amount to be allowed per student for the purchase of library books we have seen to be \$10. The allowance to each professor or teacher should therefore be $\$10 \times 12$, which equals \$120. Thus, in our college of 40 instructors the amount to be assumed for cost of books, periodicals and binding should be $\$120 \times 40$ or \$4800 and this as representing 40 per cent of the total expenditure should imply 60 per cent as being available for other purposes; that is, \$7200, which added to \$4800 for books, etc., gives a total budget of \$12,000 for an institution of 500 students and 40 faculty members.

By way of applying these calculations to actual conditions, I add a comparison of the data furnished to me by these colleges with the standard I have sought to establish.

Library	Insts.	Actual exp.	Standard exp.
A,	49	\$2900	\$5880
B,	46	4233	5520
C,	24	1431	2880
D,	48	4880	5760
E,	24	1221	2880
F,	25	1013	3000
G,	31	1860	3720
H,	70	7200	8400
I,	44	1962	5280
	361	\$26,700	\$43,320
		73.96	120
		per in-	per in-
		structor	structor

Granted that a college teacher represents a claim of \$120 for the purchase and binding of library books and periodicals, it will be granted that each teacher represents also a claim to half as much again for expenses of library management; \$120 for books carries with it \$180 for the cost of keeping and circulating the books.

My reports show actual current expenditures as follows:

Library A,	\$4847	(at $\$180 \times 49$ inst. = \$8820)
B,	6238	(at $\$180 \times 46$ inst. = 8280)
C,	2318	(at $\$180 \times 24$ inst. = 4320)
D,	10,850	(at $\$180 \times 48$ inst. = 8640)
E,	2902	(at $\$180 \times 24$ inst. = 4320)
F,	no data	
G,	7598	(at $\$180 \times 31$ inst. = 5580)
H,	data incomplete	
I,	4724	(at $\$180 \times 44$ inst. = 7920)

38,667

Average \$145.37 (As against $\$180 \times 266$ inst. = \$47,880)

What proportion of the six-tenths (or one hundred and eighty-three-hundredths) allotted to expenses of management should fall to salaries? The libraries reporting to me make the following showing:

Library	Staff	% total budg.	Student help	% total budg.
A,	3000	38.7	600	7.7
B,	5100	48.71	670	6.4
C,	1500	48.12	378	12.1
D,	9220	59.10	300	2.0
E,	830	25.05	335	10.0
F,	no data			
G,	5550	62.9	1400	15.9
H,	no data			
I,	3250	48.6	874	13.0
Aver.	per cent	47.3		9.6

These figures indicate that as matters stand at the present time the reporting libraries spend about $47\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of their income on the

salaries of the permanent staff and in addition about $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of their revenue on student help, the two together taking up about fifty-seven per cent of the annual budget. I am of the impression that so high a percentage for salaries cannot be maintained in the budget scheme which would be practicable today; 40 per cent is not too much to ask for books, periodicals and binding; 10 per cent is not too much to ask for the so-called minor expenses and 50 per cent is probably the best we can do for salaries. It is, of course, possible for us to get along more comfortably if our assured revenue is a large sum, but under present circumstances the total library appropriation is not likely to exceed \$25 per student. How then shall we use our \$12.50 per student (50 per cent of the whole) for the personnel needs of our work? With 500 students we shall have \$6250 available for our purposes.

The salary apportionment on such a basis is not adequate to provide a trained staff for the college library. Let us notice some of the facts which face us. The cataloging of 3000 titles annually, with the inevitable reorganization or perfecting of the existing catalog, cannot be accomplished by a single cataloger. Working under the cataloger there should be one permanent assistant and one student assistant. Circulation with the 12-hour day which our work requires, demands two trained reference librarians and in a modern college library the circulation of the books on reserved shelves for the use of college departments also needs a trained assistant in charge, with student help to give relief during the long hours. Furthermore, page assistants (students) are called for to provide for the service of a trained assistant continuously at the circulation desk. Shelving requires its own special help, the care of periodicals, the permanent filing of daily papers, the care of the bindery material, the classification and filing of pamphlet material, the checking of orders out and in, the repair of books, the care of incoming mail matter, outgoing correspondence, filing

and other secretarial duties—these represent needs which a college will feel if it attempts to fulfill its opportunity.

The work to be done and the work that may be done by a college library will cost more than the resources of our colleges can meet if we think of providing trained help for every need. The employment of student help is the practicable alternative to allowing some of our duties and opportunities to go by the board. We are aware of the peril to efficiency and accuracy in the employment of inexperienced help and know the force of the argument that an experienced and trained assistant is worth the difference in cost as compared with the wage paid to an untried hand, but where moral qualities are not lacking and average intelligence is granted, there are many simple tasks in a college library which do not affect permanent records or the accuracy of the shelving system, and the necessity of economy plainly suggests the wisdom of employing student helpers. They can read the periodical racks, file back numbers of periodicals, check in periodicals as received, repair books, open and cut books, plate and mark books, assist at the circulation desk and in the cataloging department, bind pamphlets, file pamphlets, file daily newspapers, often serve usefully as typists and in other ways work to good purpose after they have received some initial training and as long as they are under some degree of supervision. The college can afford this kind of help because it costs about one-third the cost of trained help and the amount earned by the students is in large part paid back to the college in fees and other college bills. To make clear the personnel needs of a college library proposing to serve a community of 40 instructors and 500 students I outline the staff of such a library very much as it has actually been constituted.

Librarian—Administration, correspondence, book purchasing, accounts	1
Cataloger—Assistant	2
Circulation and reference—2 assistants.....	2
Reserved books—1 assistant.....	1
Periodicals, bindery material, stacks.....	1
Total permanent staff.....	7

The cost of such a permanent trained staff would far exceed the \$6250 which at the present time seems to be a practicable maximum for our small college. Such a staff should cost about \$11,000, an amount which colleges are, generally speaking, quite unprepared to assume. The permanent staff will be cut down in most cases to a cost of \$5,000 and in many cases there will be but little attempt to supplement the staff with students. A reasonable employment of such student help is suggested in the following outline:

Catalog:	
marking	10 hours a week
typing cards	10 hours a week
Circulation	20 hours a week
Shelving	10 hours a week
Periodical filing	12 hours a week
Checking mail inward	12 hours a week
Checking orders out and in	12 hours a week
Typing and filing	12 hours a week
Repairing and binding	12 hours a week

This represents an expense of about \$31.35 a week for 32 weeks and \$12 for 20 weeks.

The employment of students, while relieving a difficult situation and affording a valuable training to those employed, is justified only on the ground of necessity. The consideration which I press, however, is that the necessary care of the library is not possible under present financial conditions without a larger use of inexpensive help. It is a problem of compassing a mass of work rather than of having difficult work done by skilled hands. Highly trained librarians do not favor the employment of students. The data I have show amounts ranging from one-fourth to one-third of the salary budget as spent on this kind of assistance but the complaints of an insufficient library staff which have come to me are distressing and the sense of inability to cope with the amount of work to be done is admitted.

I would include in the best possible budget for the present situation an amount for student help equal to one-fourth of the amount spent on the permanent staff.

In concluding this paper I submit a library budget which is possible and desirable, but not ideal, at the present

time for a college of 500 students and a faculty of 40 members.

Books, periodicals and binding 40%		
Books	\$4000	
Periodicals	500	
Binding	500	\$5000
Salaries 50%		
Staff	5000	
Student assistants	1250	6250
Other expenses 10%		
L. C. cards	\$ 125	
Supplies and printing	200	
Furniture	175	
Repairs	200	
Transportation	200	
Postage	200	
Miscellaneous	150	1250

Total

N. B. Light, heat, depreciation and insurance covered by the general budget of the college.

It was intended to give a basis on which the annual library budget might be framed and we have suggested three possible methods of procedure. First, the library should have as large an appropriation as any two college departments. Second, it should have a book allowance of \$10 for every liberal arts student and a management allowance of \$1.50 for every \$1 spent on books. Third, it should have a book allowance of \$120 for every instructor in liberal arts and a management allowance of \$180 corresponding to the same. These methods should coincide in the result produced by each of them and may be used to check one another.

Exhibition

An interesting and unusual exhibition of portraits of Milton and Pope is on in Room 316 of the New York public library. It represents enthusiastic collecting by the late Beverly Chew, who bequeathed the prints to the library. An amusing feature is found in various fictitious portraits of Milton, solemnly and repeatedly copied by engravers. American portraits of Milton, which much interested Mr Chew, form an interesting group. There are a number of portraits, mostly mezzotints, of other writers which add to the literary interest of the exhibition, open until April 1. An article on the Chew collection by Ruth S. Grannis appeared in *N. Y. P. L. Bulletin* for January.

News from the Field

East

Marguerite Currier, Simmons '24, has been appointed a cataloger in the Vermont state library, Montpelier.

Gertrude Robinson, Simmons '18, is doing temporary work until the first of May in the Public library, Melrose.

Mildred Cass, Simmons '24, will become an assistant in the Library school, Simmons college, Boston, Mass., April 1.

Louise Rowley, Simmons '25, has been appointed children's librarian, Public library, Brookline, Mass., and assumed her new duties February 1.

The report of the Boston athenaeum, 1925, is accompanied by a reproduction of a photograph of a group of early American literary lights that is most attractive. This picture would be interesting because of the costumes and appearance of the group but when one reads the names—Thomas G. Appleton, Julia Ward Howe, Henry W. Longfellow, George W. Coster, Mrs Longfellow and Mrs Edward Freeman—all in the early prime of life, it creates a feeling of wonder.

The report records a number of remarkable gifts, chief among which is a valuable collection of letters written by well known persons, presented to the athenaeum by Mrs John Morison. Some of the best known names in the list of notable persons are Charles Francis Adams, Mr and Mrs Louis Agassiz, George Bancroft, Henry Clay, Sir John T. Coleridge, Emerson, David G. Farragut, Holmes, Julia Ward Howe, General Lafayette, General Henry Knox, Mary A. Livermore, Lowell, John Stuart Mill, Francis Parkman, William H. Prescott, Lydia H. Sigourney, Jared Sparks, T. Russell Sullivan, Charles Sumner, George Ticknor, Josiah Quincy and others that generally seem to be names of far off spirits rather than of persons whose names might be signed to real letters.

The list of remarkable questions which came to the library during the

year strikes one with awe for the erudition required to answer them.

The death of Mary Jane Regan who joined the staff of the athenaeum in 1869 is fittingly chronicled. The beautiful tribute paid to her by Gamaliel Bradford in the *Boston Transcript* at the time of her death, in November, 1925, is quoted.

Central Atlantic

Mrs Sumner Hayward (Elizabeth McCoy) Simmons '19, has been doing temporary work in the Public library, East Orange, N. J.

Edna J. Dinwiddie, Pratt '10, formerly librarian, Middletown township library, Navesink, N. J., is now librarian, Public library, Edgewater, N. J.

Grace H. Hoysradt, Pratt '20, librarian, Pequot library, Southport, Conn., has been made librarian, Franklin branch Public library, East Orange, N. J.

Isabel L. Towner, N. Y. S. '09, resigned as reference librarian of the National Health council of New York City to become assistant librarian of the Smithsonian Institution library, Washington, D. C.

Louise Guerber, N. Y. P. L. '20-21, formerly assistant in the reference department Public library, Denver, Col., has been appointed cataloger of art objects in the Metropolitan museum, New York City.

The 1925 report of the Public library, Utica, N. Y., records a stock of 108,841v. in the library and a circulation of 507,736v., 5v. per capita. Inadequacy of books in the children's department is lamented. Polish books, led in the circulation of foreign books, followed by Italian and German. A non-resident fee of one dollar opens the library to localities outside the city.

The report of Walter L. Brown, librarian of the Public library, Buffalo, N. Y., calls attention to the fact that the library has outgrown the central building in all departments. Plans are offered for future extension. The need of new branches is also mentioned.

The circulation of the branches in 1925 was one-fourth of the total circulation of books from all departments, which totaled 2,249,968v. The library's collection contains 482,545v. A new state law requiring each high school to place a trained librarian in charge of its library is drawing heavily on the supply of trained librarians and makes it difficult for the library to fill vacancies and positions.

The 1925 report of the Public library, Syracuse, N. Y., is issued under the title, Yearbook, and without making any invidious comparisons, may be said to be an improvement over the kind of reports almost general in use. Of special interest is the paragraph dealing with the problem of lost books. "The conscience of the community must be depended upon to help the library in its custodianship of public property." It is hard to pick out from the several pages anything that would not be interesting if space permitted its reproduction. The circulation for home use reached 913,852v. During the year, 19 exhibits were held in the exhibition hall and other exhibits were held twice a week in the lobby. There were 236 meetings held in the library buildings and about 55 audiences listened to addresses in behalf of the library.

Central

Jean K. Taylor, N. Y. S. '20, was recently appointed librarian of the A. C. Spark Plug Co., Flint, Mich.

Mildred Powell, Simmons '18, is now a general assistant in a branch of the Public library, Detroit, Mich.

Alice L. LeFevre, N. Y. P. L. '22-23, has been appointed junior assistant with the A. L. A. board of education for librarianship.

Louise Singley, for some time director of the training class in the Public library, Chicago, will, after the close of the term, take a position as director of work with children in the Public library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Lois F. Shortess, for some time librarian of Southwestern Louisiana In-

stitute, Lafayette, has been appointed school library supervisor with the Michigan state library, Lansing. Miss Shortess is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, attended the Illinois library school and was for a time in the library of Eastern Illinois State normal school library.

South

Mrs Mary E. S. Root, formerly of the Public library staff, Providence, R. I., is engaged at present in a library extension campaign for the Maryland library commission.

Louise Hansen, '20, formerly cataloger in the library of the United Engineering Societies, New York, has been appointed cataloger in the Panama Canal library, Balboa Heights, C. Z.

Dora M. Pearson, N. Y. S. '22-23, resigned as cataloger and assistant librarian, Public library, Council Bluffs, Ia., to accept a temporary cataloging position at the Goodwyn Institute reference library, Memphis, Tenn.

Ellen Glasgow, the well known novelist of Richmond, Va., has consented to serve as a member of the library board of that city. Here is another source of a new supply of enthusiasm for the trustees' section.

The appropriation to the Carnegie library of Atlanta is \$103,199 for 1926, an increase of about \$9000 over the appropriation for 1925. Of the increased appropriation, about \$4000 is for the increase of salaries, \$2000 for additional book fund (a total book fund of \$22,000 for 1926) and \$1287 for the maintenance of the library school.

Caroline E. Waters, N. Y. S. '01-02, has been appointed reference librarian in the Public library, Tampa, Fla. She resigned from the library staff of the College for women, Western Reserve university, Cleveland, O., of which she is a graduate. Margaret Hickson, formerly of the children's department, Public library, Seattle, Wash., has joined the staff also, as branch librarian, West Tampa branch. Miss Hickson is a graduate of the Pittsburgh library school. F. Adele Master-son, graduate of the Training course for

children's librarians, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y., has been appointed children's librarian.

The late Henry Watterson, celebrated editor of the *Courier-Journal*, Louisville, Ky., bequeathed his library, pictures, etc., to the Public library of that city, with \$5000 to be used to construct a special department to be known as the Henry Watterson alcove. The *Courier-Journal* recently announced a Watterson Memorial Bookplate contest and offered a prize of \$50 for the best design for the bookplate. The contest was open to card holders in the Louisville public library. The bookplate will be used in the 7000 volumes left to the library by Mr Watterson.

The judges of the contest were Alice Cane, teacher of art, Louisville girls' high school, Mrs Kirby Chambers, chairman of the Art committee of the Woman's club, and George T. Settle, librarian, Louisville public library. The award was won by L. M. Verick, a commercial artist for a printing house in Louisville.

West

Jessie Foster, N. Y. P. L., '24-25, has been appointed assistant in the reference department, Public library, Denver, Col.

Anna Buckingham, formerly connected with the Public library, Alton, Ill., has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Deming, N. M.

Marjorie T. Fullwood, N. Y. P. L. '23-24, formerly librarian, Senior high school, Fond-du-Lac, Wis., has been appointed reference librarian, Kansas State teacher's college, Emporia.

Pacific Coast

Clara VanSant, N. Y. S. '18, joined the staff of the Public library, Tacoma, Wash., as reference librarian, February 1.

Lucile Kelling, N. Y. S. '19, resigned her position with the Free public library, Newark, N. J., and is now acting reference librarian, Mills College library, Cal.

The report of the library of the University of Oregon, Eugene, 1925,

records: Books on the shelves, 152,596; books issued for home use, 92,327, 33v. for each student enrolled; number of books issued over the counter, 403,103, a recorded use of 146 per capita; fines collected, \$1872. A recent acquisition was several thousand issues of the *New York Herald* and the *New York Tribune* covering the period, 1860-80. The volumes came from the University of Chicago in exchange for duplicates of the *Oregon State Journal*, 1864-1909. A number of valuable gifts were received.

The report of the Free library, Oakland, California, '24-25, the first printed in octavo form since 1916, shows that like many another, this library was caught in the era of higher costs without a corresponding increase of income. Salaries had to be increased to keep a staff together, but book funds were not enlarged enough to keep up with higher book prices and the larger demand of a rapidly growing population.

The annual circulation has been over a million for the last four years, not counting the issue of pictures. Last year 56,461 pictures were lent. The collection is 140,731 b., 60,346 pam., 78,980 pictures; cardholders, 60,227. There are thirteen branches and seven stations, besides the main library, the art gallery and two museums. The population is estimated at 290,000 and the income of the library for all departments was \$171,784, of which \$149,612 was for the library and branches.

Wanted —20-drawer filing case. Free public library, Council Bluffs, Ia.

Wanted—U. S. catalog, v.1918-21. Central Michigan Normal School, Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Wanted—Librarian for state college library. Must have B. A. degree and one year's training in standard library school; experience necessary, preferably in college library work. Position to begin April or June. Address Librarian, Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette.